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94th 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

Izola, Slovenia, 20-21 June 2023

Agenda Item 5: Specific Issues

Report by the Secretariat on Specific Issues

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A. Ratification, Reporting and Compliance

a) Status of Ratification of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols

1. Tables 1 and 2 reflect the status of ratification of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols as checked on 15 May 2023 against the link provided for this purpose by the Government of Spain, in its capacity as the Depository of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols, with the addition of the ratification of the ICZM Protocol by Tunisia:

<https://exteriores.gob.es/es/ServiciosAlCiudadano/TratadosInternacionales/Paginas/Mar-Mediterraneo.aspx>

Table 1: Summary of Status of Ratification

| |
|--|
| 22 Contracting Parties have accepted the amendments to the Convention, 1995; |
| 15 Contracting Parties have accepted the amendments to the Dumping Protocol, 1995; |
| 17 Contracting Parties have accepted the amendments to the LBS Protocol, 1996; |
| 8 Contracting Parties have ratified the Offshore Protocol, 1994; |
| 17 Contracting Parties have ratified the SPA and Biodiversity Protocol, 1995; |
| 7 Contracting Parties have ratified the Hazardous Waste Protocol, 1996; |
| 17 Contracting Parties have ratified the Prevention and Emergency Protocol, 2002; |
| 13 Contracting Parties have ratified the ICZM Protocol, 2008. |

Table 2: Ratification of Barcelona Convention and Protocols by individual Contracting Parties

| Contracting Parties | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------|---------|------------------------|---------|--------|----------------|-------|--------|--------|--------|-------|---------|-------|-------|--------|------------|---------|----------|-------|-------|---------|---------|--|
| | Albania | Algeria | Bosnia and Herzegovina | Croatia | Cyprus | European Union | Egypt | France | Greece | Israel | Italy | Lebanon | Libya | Malta | Monaco | Montenegro | Morocco | Slovenia | Spain | Syria | Tunisia | Türkiye | |
| Barcelona Convention and Amendments | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Dumping Protocol and Amendments | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Emergency Protocol | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Prevention and Emergency Protocol | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| LBS Protocol and Amendments | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SPA Protocol | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SPA and Biodiversity Protocol | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Offshore Protocol | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Hazardous Wastes Protocol | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ICZM Protocol | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

| | |
|--|--|
| Instrument of ratification, adhesion approval or accession deposited and Convention or Protocol entered into force | |
| No instrument of ratification, adhesion, approval or accession deposited | |
| Instrument of ratification, adhesion, approval or accession deposited but Protocol has not entered into force yet | |

2. During this reporting period, Tunisia has ratified the ICZM Protocol by law decree No. 917-2022 issued on 28 November 2022. The Secretariat is in contact with the Depository for the update of the relevant records.

3. To further promote the ratification of the Protocols to the Barcelona Convention, in particular the ratification of the Dumping Protocol which requires a single additional ratification to enter into force, bilateral meetings with Contracting Parties are being used, seeking national opportunities for outstanding ratifications. The UNEP/MAP PoW 2022-2023, under activity 5.1.1, also provides for facilitation and/or technical support provided upon request to Contracting Parties, to achieve progress on ratification of the Protocols of the Barcelona Convention and appropriate assistance or technical support may be discussed on a bilateral basis with Contracting Parties who have not yet ratified the Dumping Protocol. To this end, the Secretariat has contacted a number of Contracting Parties to discuss the possible ratification of relevant Protocols, and especially the ratifications of the Amendments to the Dumping Protocol.

b) Reporting

4. At COP 22 (Antalya, Türkiye, 7-10 December 2021), Contracting Parties adopted Decision IG.25/2 entitled “*Compliance Committee*”, urging those Contracting Parties who have not yet submitted their national implementation reports for the biennium 2018-2019 to do so, as soon as possible and inviting Contracting Parties to submit their national implementation reports for the biennium 2020-2021 using the online Barcelona Convention Reporting System by December 2022. The UNEP/MAP PoW 2022-2023, under activity 5.3.3, also provides for the development of mechanisms to promote mutual supportiveness with other relevant international instruments when it comes to reporting and for providing support for reporting at national level (e.g. e-reporting modules, twinning approach).

5. Through a letter dated 22 June 2022, the Secretariat contacted Contracting Parties reminding them of their obligation to submit national implementation reports for the biennium 2020-2021 by December 2022, in accordance with Decision IG.25/2. The Secretariat sent a reminder to the Contracting Parties through an email dated 29 November 2022, while at the same time is supporting a number of Contracting Parties in relation to questions regarding technical aspects of the use of the online Barcelona Convention reporting System (BCRS).

6. As of 15 May 2023, the status of reporting can be summarized as follows: (a) 2012-2013 and 2014-2015 biennia: the Secretariat continues working with Contracting Parties that have requested so, to support them to submit their outstanding national implementation reports step-by-step; (b) biennium 2016-2017: a total of 18 Contracting Parties have submitted their national implementation reports; (c) biennium 2018-2019: a total of 13 Contracting Parties have submitted the national implementation reports, with reporting rates ranging from 59% (13 reporting Parties) for the Barcelona Convention and 50% (11 reporting Parties) for the SPA/BD Protocol to 32% (7 reporting Parties) for the Hazardous Wastes Protocol; (d) biennium 2020-2021: a total of 10 Contracting Parties have submitted their national implementation reports for the Barcelona Convention (45.5%), 8 Parties for the SPA/BD Protocol (36.5%), 6 Parties for the Hazardous Wastes Protocol (27%), 8 Parties for the Dumping Protocol (36.5%), 6 Parties for the Offshore Protocol (27%), and 8 Parties for the Prevention and Emergency and Land-Based Sources Protocols (36.5%).

c) Compliance

7. The implementation of the Programme of Work of the Compliance Committee for the biennium 2022-2023, adopted through COP 22 Decision IG.25/2 continues. To this end, the preparations for the 19th Meeting of the Compliance Committee are under way (Athens, Greece, 4-5 July 2023).

8. The Compliance Committee, in the course of its 18th Meeting (Athens, Greece, 29-30 June 2022), adopted for the first time since its creation findings and recommendations concerning compliance by a Contracting Party with the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols. The Secretariat has communicated timely with the concerned Party (Spain) and the communicant in accordance with the processes foreseen in the Rules of Procedure. The Party concerned provided timely its response to the findings and recommendations, including on measures set up for the recovery of Mar Menor.

9. The Secretariat has received a new communication regarding a possible case of non-compliance by a Contracting Party. The Secretariat has transmitted the communication to the Party Concerned and asked the Party to submit an official response providing the needed information on this

communication, in accordance to the Rules of Procedure. The Secretariat has received the response from the concerned Party which will be discussed at the 19th Compliance Committee Meeting on 4-5 July 2023.

10. Proposed Recommendations:

(a) The Bureau takes note of the current status of ratification of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols and urges the Contracting Parties which have not yet done so to make efforts for the ratifications of the Protocols (7 Contracting Parties have not yet ratified the amendments to the Dumping Protocol; 5 Contracting Parties the amendments to the LBS Protocol; 14 Contracting Parties the Offshore Protocol; 5 Contracting Parties the SPA and Biodiversity Protocol; 15 Contracting Parties the Hazardous Waste Protocol; 5 Contracting Parties the Prevention and Emergency Protocol, and; 9 Contracting Parties the ICZM Protocol). To this aim the Bureau also invites these Contracting Parties to liaise with the Secretariat as appropriate to facilitate coordination towards ratification of the relevant legal instruments, with particular focus on the Dumping Protocol to ensure its entry into force as soon as possible;

(b) The Bureau encourages the President and the Secretariat to continue their efforts with the respective Contracting Parties to achieve the full ratification of the Protocols to the Barcelona Convention;

(c) The Bureau calls on Contracting Parties to submit their national implementation reports for the period 2020-2021 which supposed to be submitted by December 2022 and strongly urges those Contracting Parties who have not yet done so, to submit their national implementation reports for the reporting periods 2012–2013 and 2014–2015 (2 Contracting Parties), 2016-2017 (4 Contracting Parties), 2018-2019 (9 Contracting Parties) and/or 2020-2021 (12 Contracting Parties) without further delay to complete the reporting for these biennia as soon as possible.

B. COP 22 Key mandates:

- Achievements and Lessons Learnt from the 2023 MED QSR Delivery

11. The work for delivering the 2023 MED QSR based on the MED QSR Roadmap and the activities included in the UNEP/MAP Programme of Work and Budget 2022-2023 is progressing towards its finalization in view of the 10th EcAp Coordination Group, the MAP Focal Points Meeting and COP 23. Proposals of the 2023 MED QSR and the first draft of the main assessment chapters of the 2023 MED QSR were presented in March 2023 to the dedicated CORMON meetings per Thematic Cluster. Post-CORMON and COR ESA revisions to the chapters are underway to prepare a consolidated MED QSR document for the consideration of the meeting of Integrated CORMONs to take place on 27-28 June 2023. The EU-funded projects EcAp MED III, IMAP-MPA and Marine Litter Med II continue to support beneficiary countries in their implementation of monitoring programmes based on IMAP, as well as in the data collection and submission that will contribute to indicators, Ecological Objectives and integrated assessments for the MED QSR, as feasible. The delivery of the 2023 MED QSR required a lot of work, which was launched in 2018 through extensive consultation process with the CPs in the following directions:

- a) Setting of several quantitative assessment criteria, and for some CI is still ongoing;
- b) Setting of integration and aggregation rules for monitoring and assessment;
- c) Development, testing and implementation of the several GES and alternative up-to-date environmental assessment methodologies. It is important to point out that the IMAP assessment methodologies were based on the best available science at the EU and the Regional Seas levels, however developing and applying them under the specific circumstances of the Mediterranean region, dominantly characterized with a lack of quality assured data on the status of marine environment;
- d) Close collaboration with several partners and the importance of science policy for IMAP implementation is crucial.

12. The lack of systematic data reported by the Contracting Parties, as stipulated in Decisions IG.23/6 and IG.24/4, created several difficulties in the process and affect the quality of the entire QSR

report. Therefore, there is a need for reflection on ways and means to enhance the capacity of the Parties and the entire Barcelona Convention-UNEP/MAP system in delivering this important mandate.

13. Main issues at stake and way forward:

- a) Inhomogeneous data, and uneven responsiveness of the Contracting Parties, contribute to the reduction of the reliability of data and of assessment products at regional/sub-regional level;
- b) Effective functionality of IMAP IS and its interoperability with national databases is crucial. QA-QC mechanism of the IMAP InfoSystem needs to be significantly strengthened, including operational and scientific quality control of data reported by the CPs;
- c) Contracting Parties should consider more resources for the implementation of IMAP at the national level and be actively included in assessment processes at sub-regional level, and not only on monitoring. This requires a change of the approach followed so far;
- d) Redefining the timeframe for the preparation of the quality status reports to 8 years, to enable the use of data from a full 6-year reporting cycle, including 1 year for data processing and preparation of the thematic assessment and 1 year for review within the UNEP/MAP institutional framework.

14. The Secretariat plans to ask a mandate for the revision of the roadmap for the implementation by UNEP/MAP of the Ecosystem Approach, which also includes a revision of IMAP and its assessment component during the next biennium.

- Follow-up to the Med SOx ECA Implementation

15. The Secretariat has further promoted the work on the designation of the Mediterranean Sea Emission Control Area for Sulphur Oxides and Particulate Matter (Med SOx ECA) in various fora, notably at the REMPEC side event entitled “*Mediterranean efforts to reduce ship air pollution*” held in the margins of the UNFCCC COP 27 (Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt, 15 November 2022), the 1st Steering Committee Meeting of the SAFEMED V Project (Lisbon, Portugal, 23 November 2022), the UNEP/MAP-REMPEC side event entitled “*Emission Control Area for Sulphur Oxides and Particulate Matter: The Mediterranean experience (Med SOx ECA)*” and the informal meeting on the possible designation of the Northeast Atlantic as an Emission Control Area held in the margins of the 79th Session of the International Maritime Organization (IMO)’s Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC 79) (London, UK, 12-16 December 2022), as well as the Med SOx ECA compliance workshop organised by Danish NGOs/authorities (Copenhagen, Denmark, 22 May 2023).

16. Following the submission of the joint and coordinated proposal on the designation of the Med SOx ECA, set out in the Annex to Decision IG.25/14, on 4 February 2022, by France, on behalf of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention and the Member States of the European Union, to the 78th Session of the IMO’s Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC 78) (London, UK, 6-10 June 2022), which endorsed the proposal and approved the related draft amendments to Annex VI to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL), the UNEP/MAP Coordinator subsequently sent letters to all Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention in relation to the implementation of Decision IG.25/14, especially encouraging them to actively participate, in line with a pre-agreed common approach, in the deliberations on the draft amendments to MARPOL Annex VI concerning the Med SOx ECA at MEPC 79, in accordance with the road map.

17. The President of the Bureau and representatives from the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols, as well as the UNEP/MAP Coordinator and a representative from REMPEC, attended MEPC 79, which adopted the amendments to MARPOL Annex VI concerning the Med SOx ECA, with an expected date of entry into effective application on 1 May 2025. The President of the Bureau and the UNEP/MAP Coordinator had a bilateral meeting with the IMO Secretary General, Mr Kitack Lim, in the margins of MEPC 79 to discuss issues of common interest.

18. REMPEC followed up on the draft national reports on the assessment of the needs that it had submitted to the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols that had not yet ratified MARPOL Annex VI, namely Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Egypt, Israel, Lebanon and Libya. Within the period under review, the repository of MARPOL Annex VI, i.e. IMO, has not recorded any new Mediterranean ratification.

19. Consultations with the concerned countries progressed toward the implementation of the work plan and timetable related to their ratification and effective implementation of MARPOL Annex VI as well as their implementation of the Med SOx ECA.

20. In Algeria, the ratification process has been launched. Bosnia and Herzegovina has not yet ratified MARPOL and its mandatory Annexes I and II, which is a prerequisite before it may ratify MARPOL Annex VI. In Egypt internal procedures for applying for ratification had begun. The ratification of MARPOL Annex VI by Israel and Lebanon is well in progress. The ratification by Libya is hampered by current unsettled situation.

21. The 6 Mediterranean coastal States that have not yet ratified MARPOL Annex VI have requested a combination of legal, technical and financial assistance. With the support from IMO, REMPEC continued its dialogue with relevant stakeholders, notably EU Commission, EMSA and the LIFE4MEDECA Project to provide technical support, through technical cooperation and capacity-building activities, including financial support and resource mobilisation activities, to address Contracting Parties' needs.

22. REMPEC submitted the draft regional fund-raising strategy to support Mediterranean coastal states in relation to the ratification and effective implementation of MARPOL Annex VI, as well as the implementation of the Med SOx ECA and linked compliance measures (REMPEC/WG.52/INF.6), to the First Coordination Meeting on the Mediterranean Strategy for the Prevention of, Preparedness, and Response to Marine Pollution from Ships (2022-2031) (Floriana, Malta, 29 November-1 December 2022). The Meeting established a joint intersessional working group for Common Strategic Objective (CSO) 2 (climate change) and CSO 3 (air emissions from ships).

- **UNEP/MAP Resource Mobilization Strategy**

23. As per the mandate given by COP 22, the Secretariat has launched the preparation of an updated Resource Mobilisation Strategy (RMS) for accompanying the MTS 2022-2027. The current RMS (COP 20, Decision IG.23/5) which has a horizon period of ten years will be reviewed for any necessary update in the main text, while its Appendix, as refined and attached in Annex VII to the COP 21 Decision IG. 24/2, will be fully updated to reflect the outcomes of the new MTS 2022-2027, and identify resource needs and possible donors and funding opportunities, in coordination with the Executive Coordination Panel (ECP).

24. In parallel, REMPEC submitted the draft regional fund-raising strategy to support Mediterranean coastal states in relation to the ratification and effective implementation of MARPOL Annex VI, as well as the implementation of the Med SOx ECA and linked compliance measures, to the First Coordination Meeting on the Mediterranean Strategy for the Prevention of, Preparedness, and Response to Marine Pollution from Ships (2022-2031) (Floriana, Malta, 29 November-1 December 2022), which aimed, *inter alia*, at facilitating the mobilisation of resources through a collaborative, coordinated and collective approach. REMPEC is currently developing a resource mobilisation strategy to implement the Ballast Water Management Strategy for the Mediterranean Sea (2022-2027). REMPEC mobilised through the IMO's Integrated Technical Cooperation Programme (ITCP), a total of \$42,300.00 towards the implementation of activity 2.4.1.

25. Ensuring a sustainable financial support has a capital importance for a realistic operational implementation of the Post-2020 SAPBIO supported by the Post-2020 Regional Strategy for Marine and Coastal Protected Areas (MCPAs) and Other Effective area-based Conservation Measures (OECMs). To this end, a resource mobilisation strategy to implement the new strategies has been elaborated in consultation with the Contracting Parties (SAPBIO National Correspondents) and the SAPBIO Advisory Committee. The 9th Meeting of SAPBIO National Correspondents was held on 24 February 2023 in Barcelona, Spain to inform the Contracting Parties on the Draft Resource Mobilization Strategy process and to consult them and have the involvement in the projects' portfolio preparation. A Donor Conference for Biodiversity and Area-based Conservation in the Mediterranean was organised by SPA/RAC on 16 March 2023, in Paris, France. The conference gathered key donors and funding agencies in a roundtable and included the presentation of a four projects' portfolio. Since the project portfolio aims at implementing the Post-2020 SAPBIO and Post-2020 Strategy for MCPAs and OECMs, an overview of their content (outcomes, outputs, targets, implementation plans, concerned countries and budget estimate were presented to potential donors.

26. Proposed Recommendations:

(a) The Bureau takes note of the information provided on the key mandates of COP 22 and their implementation, and requests the Secretariat and the respective MAP components to ensure all steps are undertaken for their effective and timely implementation, and urge the Contracting Parties to fully participate and contribute to the effective delivery of related activities of the PoW 2022-2023;

(b) The Bureau welcomes the adoption of the amendments to MARPOL Annex VI concerning the Med SOx ECA at the 79th session of the International Maritime Organization (IMO)'s Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC 79) (London, UK, 12-16 December 2022), and recalls the urgency of ratification, transposition and effective implementation of MARPOL Annex VI, particularly in view of the expected date of entry into effective application of the Med SOx ECA on 1 May 2025;

(c) The Bureau encourages the Contracting Parties that have not yet done so, to finalise the assessment of their needs, in consultation with REMPEC and to take the necessary actions for ratifying MARPOL Annex VI with a view to facilitating the designation of the Med SOx ECA pursuant to MARPOL Annex VI, and requests the Secretariat and REMPEC, in collaboration with IMO, to support these processes upon request.

C. Main directions of the UNEP/MAP Programme of Work and Budget 2024-2025

Background and process

27. The Contracting Parties, with their Decision IG.25/19 "Programme of Work and Budget for 2022-2023", adopted by the COP 22 (Antalya, Türkiye, December 2021), mandated the Secretariat to prepare, in consultation with the Bureau, for careful consideration by the MAP Focal Points and, after further refinement, approval by COP 23 a result-based Programme of Work and Budget for 2024 - 2025, explaining the key principles and assumptions on which it is based and taking into account the progress achieved during the implementation of the 2022-2023 Programme of Work, providing information on the consultation process followed for its preparation, and in full alignment with the MAP Medium-Term Strategy (MTS) 2022-2027.

28. COP 22 further requested the Secretariat, in consultation with UNEP Headquarters, to explore possible ways of simplifying the structure of the Programme of Work and Budget to ensure that Contracting Parties have a clear understanding of the priorities and the relationship with the MTS when adopting the budget.

29. Following the practice of the previous biennia, a highly participatory process is being followed for the preparation of the 2024-2025 Programme of Work (PoW), aiming at strengthening integration among activities and MAP Components, reflecting regional and national priorities and needs, maximising synergies with relevant global and regional processes and instruments, and ensuring ownership by the Contracting Parties through regular consultation.

30. Further to the Coordinator's letter sent to the MAP Focal Points in February 2023, regarding the launch of the process and timeline for the development of the 2024-2025 PoW, the MAP Components shared an initial list of activities and expected related deliverables with their respective Focal Points, with a copy to the MAP Focal Points, for a preliminary consultation, aiming to trigger a first discussion on the relevance and pertinence of the proposed activities and their deliverables to MAP mandates as well as on their technical feasibility.

31. Based on the inputs received from the first round of consultation on technical aspects, the Coordinating Unit in consultation with the ECP completed the first draft of the 2024-2025 PoW, which was shared, together with a narrative part, with the MAP Focal Points on 13 April 2023 for review and submission of comments with a deadline of 10 May 2023. Based on the comments received, the Secretariat is working on the preparation of the 2024-2025 PoW and Budget. In accordance with the Terms of Reference of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD, Decision IG.22/17), the Secretariat will also inform the MCSD at its 20th Meeting in June 2023 on its sustainability dimension.

32. The proposed 2024-2025 PoW and Budget, reflecting the outcomes of the 94th Bureau Meeting discussions and the online consultation with the MAP Focal Points, will be submitted to the Executive Director of UNEP for clearance before its formal submission to the Meeting of MAP Focal Points in September 2023.

Principles and main elements of the PoW

33. In line with this Decision IG.25/19, the proposed 2024-2025 PoW takes into consideration the following elements:

- a) Full alignment with the MTS 2022-2027;
- b) Status of implementation of the MTS 2022-2027 and current PoW 2022-2023;
- c) Reliable resource mobilization (including also not yet secured external funding);
- d) Relevant regional and global commitments;
- e) Regional progress and achievements on environmental and sustainable development agenda in the Mediterranean;
- f) Comparative advantages;
- g) Balanced distribution, to the extent possible, of activities around MTS Programmes and Outcomes.

34. The Programme of Work (PoW) for 2024-2025, being in the middle of the new MTS cycle, is designed to ensure its continued effective implementation and achievement of its outcomes.

35. The proposed 2024-2025 PoW aims, through its effective implementation, at strengthening the contribution and leadership role of UNEP/MAP-Barcelona Convention system in partnership with other actors including civil society and the scientific community. Its objective is to ensure progress towards the achievement of Good Environmental Status and the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development and its SDGs, supporting also the achievement of global objectives at regional level, especially those deriving from the CBD Post 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, the UNFCCC, as well as the new international legally binding instrument on BBNJ and the anticipated global Treaty to address plastic pollution, through the effective implementation of the Barcelona Convention, its Protocols and the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD).

36. In response to the request of COP 22, on the potential simplification of the PoW and Budget structure, the Secretariat aims at maintaining the list of deliverables in the PoW Tables until their review and approval by the MAP Components/Thematic Focal Points meetings, while the working document to be submitted to the MAP Focal Points and COP 23 for review and approval will go up to the level of main activities, and present the list of deliverables only as information document. It is also planned to summarize the Activity Budget Tables per Programme per MAP Component.

37. In line with the result-based management (RBM) approach, the activities have been further aggregated and their number reduced from 116 in PoW 2022-2023 to 108 in the PoW 2024-2025, built around 27 MTS Outcomes.

38. The 2024-2025 PoW will focus on the following:

- Supporting integrated responses for prevention and reduction of plastic pollution and marine litter, including emerging sources of pollution, litter within the MAP Barcelona Convention legal and policy framework, while ensuring links and synergies with other relevant regional and global instruments and processes;
- Promoting a transformational change embracing circular economy and contributing to the implementation of the One Health Approach;
- Contributing to the effective implementation of the Post 2020 SAP BIO;
- Supporting the Contracting Parties' efforts in establishing, expanding and efficiently managing Marine and Coastal Protected Areas (MCPAs) and other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs) networks;

- Enhancing ecosystem resilience through restoration, and improving the status of conservation of Mediterranean endangered and threatened species and key habitats;
- Providing up-to-date scientific knowledge on climate change and supporting Contracting Parties in their efforts to prevent or reduce the impact of climate change on coastal and marine ecosystems and increase resilience to climatic change and variability
- Assisting Contracting Parties in achieving sustainability of coastal and marine resources through the synergetic implementation of planning and management approaches and integrating circular economy measures and solutions in key Blue Economy sectors;
- Supporting Contracting Parties' efforts to implement the Offshore Protocol and the Mediterranean Offshore Action Plan;
- Ensuring the effective implementation and enforcement by the Contracting Parties of the legal and regulatory instruments of MAP Barcelona Convention, while supporting policy coherence and complementarity among relevant work at global, regional and national levels;
- Strengthening public institutions and enhancing partnerships and multi-stakeholder engagement, including with civil society, the private sector, and science policy interface;
- Recapitalizing on the work undertaken for the implementation of IMAP, with a view to entering into a new phase and delivering an updated IMAP for GES assessment, based on the outcomes of the 2023 Mediterranean Quality Status Report (2023 Med QSR);
- Strengthening the Environment and Development Observatory in support of CPs decision-making;
- Enhancing the MAP information systems including with the integration of assessment tools, as well as the delivery of a Knowledge Management Platform for the MAP system;
- Informing stakeholders and policy makers about the state of the Mediterranean Sea and coast and making them aware of the environmental priority issues;
- Disseminating knowledge and raising awareness and outreach of general public in particular youth, including through citizen science and digital campaigns;
- Supporting digital transformation using new technologies to improve networking and MAP visibility.

39. The measuring of progress and results of implementation of 2024-2025 PoW activities will continue being based on the assessment and population of MTS indicators and targets at biennial level.

Budget preparation

40. It should be noted that the proposed 2024-2025 PoW includes a number of important ad hoc mandates which are more specific than the usual set of PoW activities and require additional support in order to ensure a participatory and inclusive process for their delivery, through consultation with Contracting Parties and integrated work among MAP Components. These important "ad hoc" mandates comprise the upgrade of MAP info systems to integrate assessment tools and modalities, the development of a revised roadmap for ecosystem approach implementation and IMAP, the MSSD revision, the updated Regional Framework for Climate Change Adaptation, a continued countries support for the implementation of the Med SO_x ECA, the Secretariat's contribution to the organisation of the 9th international "Our Ocean Conference" (OOC-9), the celebration of the 50 years Anniversary of MAP (1975) and 20 years Anniversary of MAP II and of the current Barcelona Convention (1995) and the preparation of studies for a possible designation of the Med NO_x ECA pursuant to MARPOL Annex VI. More resources are also required to provide smoothly the necessary services to the organisations of the COP. It is estimated that an additional around 350,000 EUR compared to the approved budget for 2022-2023 may be required in addition to the efforts for securing external funding.

41. In terms of administrative costs, the intention is to propose a total 3 percent increase for the administrative support costs of the RACs, a 3 percent increase on the costs of both the international and locally recruited staff posts of REMPEC, a 3 percent increase on the costs of international staff posts and a 5 percent increase of the locally recruited staff posts of the Secretariat, all calculated for the biennium as compared to the 2022-2023 budget.

42. The Secretariat, in addition, considers including some new positions to be budgeted in the next biennium, as follows:

- a) It is important to strengthen REMPEC with an additional P5 position, or as a replacement of the existing P4 position, that would enhance competency and leadership of the Center considering the new mandates related to SO_x ECA and possibly work on NO_x ECA. For the next biennium, the proposed post will be funded for one year only, and in case of its establishment as a replacement to a P4 position, it will be funded for two years.
- b) It is proposed to re-establish the post of the Assistant to the MAP Coordinator at G5/G6 level, that was abolished in the biennium 2012-2013.
- c) Under the MedProgramme, the Secretariat has used the approved budget under activity “Strengthen *the MAP result-based programmatic framework including gender mainstreaming and sustainability of operations*” to establish 2 G5 positions as a counterpart contribution to GEF funds. We were informed by the HQ that these costs should appear as part of the staffing table of the Secretariat because their costs are financed with MTF and the related OTA funds if available, levied on the MTF.

43. The final figures for budget allocations for both activities and administrative and operational costs for the entire MAP system, based on the elements described above, are under elaboration and consultation with Headquarters and will be shared by the Secretariat with the Bureau during its 94th meeting.

44. It has to be noted that all the additional administrative and operational costs indicated above are going to be absorbed through the amount of total budget approved for the 2022-2023 biennium, per each respective Component, with the exception of the fund allocations for the additional mandates amounting to approximately EUR 350,000 as indicated above.

45. The Secretariat is confident that despite a lower amount allocated for activities due to the increase of administrative costs, every effort will be made to compensate any potential impacts, through four main factors: a) strengthening the capacity of the Secretariat to deliver more effectively; b) reducing to the extent possible the costs of meetings and using up-to-date delivery modalities; c) reducing other administrative costs and making operations more effective; and d) mobilising larger amounts of external resources.

46. It is important to note that the Secretariat has secured additional external resources that will support the activities of the 2024-2025 PoW through ongoing and newly approved projects, i.e. EUR 4,000,000 under the EU-funded SEMPA Project (DG NEAR) for a four-year period i.e. August 2023-August 2027, USD 2,200,000 under the EU-funded ECAP Med Plus Project (DG ENV) for a three-year period, i.e. March 2024 – February 2028, and USD 1,200,000 under the EU-funded Marine Litter Med Plus Project (DG ENV) (*specific yearly allocations for the three projects to be defined at a later stage*); USD 1,132,986 under the FishEBM Med Project for the biennium 2024-2025; as well as approximately USD 16,000,000 together with implementing partners’ budget, from the GEF-funded MedProgramme for 2024-2025.

47. Based on the above proposals, the total amount from MTF required for the implementation of the proposed 2024-2025 PoW is approx. EUR 16,265,000, which is composed of EUR 15,915,413 as approved in the PoW and Budget 2022-2023, with the addition of approx. EUR 350,000 for the ad hoc mandates as described above.

48. A budget solely based on the approved ordinary income of Mediterranean Trust Fund in 2022-2023 biennium amounting to EUR 13,296,144, cannot provide the necessary budget allocations for the effective implementation of the proposed 2024-2025 PoW.

49. The Secretariat would like to propose for consideration and guidance by the Bureau, two potential ways to secure the funds required, as shown in points (i) and (ii) below:

- i) cover the additional budget needs, in addition to the ordinary income of the Mediterranean Trust Fund, solely through the use of potential MTF surplus, at the level of approx. EUR 2.97

million (i.e. approx. EUR 2,62 from MTF surplus approved for the PoW and Budget 2022-2023, plus EUR 350,000);

ii) cover the additional budget, in addition to the ordinary income of the Mediterranean Trust Fund, through a combination of the use of MTF surplus and a marginal increase of the assessed contributions for the 2024-2025 biennium at the level of 5 percent (amounting to approx. EUR 570,000), resulting in the use of approx. EUR 2.4 million from MTF surplus.

50. In each of the budget scenarios proposed, the Working Capital Reserve will be maintained as per the UNEP/MAP Financial Rules and Procedures (Procedure 3 para 2).

51. Proposed Recommendation:

(a) The Bureau is invited to express their views on the principles and main elements for the PoW 2024-2025 and the proposed budget scenarios and provide guidance to the Secretariat as may deem it useful.

D. Preparations for COP 23: Format, Ministerial Session and Declaration, Host Country preparations

Format of COP 23 and its Ministerial Session

52. COP 23 will be held on 4-8 December 2023, in Portoroz, Slovenia, at the kind invitation of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia. COP 23, as customary in the MAP system, will have its Ministerial-level discussions. The Ministerial session would benefit from an interactive format, in the form of a panel, as was the case in COP 22. Following the opening session and the report on activities carried out since COP 22, an Interactive Ministerial Session is envisaged. The discussion may be triggered by a keynote speaker and steered by a moderator. A panel is envisaged that would consist of 4-5 speakers/resource persons coming from different strands of work and expertise relevant to the work of the UNEP/MAP-Barcelona Convention and the theme of the COP. Resource persons are expected to make a short introduction on the theme from their perspective and the discussion that will follow would involve the Ministers/Heads of Delegations and stakeholders/MAP Partners. Panelists may come from different strands, such as Governments, UN bodies, academia/science community, non-governmental organizations and the private sector, depending also on the thematic area to be addressed and the focus of the discussions. The Ministerial Session is also expected to include the short interventions by Ministers and Heads of Delegations that are expected to focus on the theme of the COP, the ceremony for awarding the Istanbul Environment Friendly City Award 2022-2023, and the adoption of the Portoroz Ministerial Declaration.

53. During a meeting between the Secretariat and the President of the Republic of Slovenia in April 2023, the President, Ms. Nataša Pirc Musar, expressed her willingness to participate at COP 23. It was agreed that further to the thematic aspects of the high-level segment, the COP will, inter alia, focus on gender and that the President of Slovenia will lead the planned event on Women Leaders of the Mediterranean. Furthermore, importance will be placed on Youth and Education, including possibly through panel participation and/or a dedicated youth event.

54. Further to the above, a series of events organized around specific activities/achievements of the MAP-Barcelona Convention system and partners in the main thematic areas of the COP with regional and sub-regional scope and other formats of outreach would be arranged throughout the COP, culminating during the Ministerial Session. These would include:

- a) Signing of bilateral agreements;
- b) Side events, including with stakeholders;
- c) Photo exhibitions;
- d) Media events;
- e) Other.

Theme of Ministerial Session

55. The Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols – “the COP for the Mediterranean”— is the foremost regional gathering on environmental and sustainability issues in the region. This is where representatives of the 21 coastal countries and the European Union come together to ponder the state of marine and coastal ecosystems, consider interactions between socio-economic and natural systems based on science, and agree on pathways to decouple development from the drivers of the Effective, inclusive and sustainable multilateral actions to tackle climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution (i.e. the theme of UNEA-6)—a global crisis with alarmingly acute symptoms in the Mediterranean.

56. Considering that the Ministerial Session concentrates the policy heft of the COP, this note outlines a potential theme for a captivating and meaningful debate conducive to progress on the policy front, in line also with advocacy priorities outlined under Programme 7 of the MTS. The present proposal takes into account the policy messages contained in the Naples and Antalya declarations and the latest developments on the global and regional environmental governance scene.

57. The Secretariat, through discussions between the Coordinating Unit and the MAP Components, and considering the key strategic documents submitted to COP 23 for adoption would like to bring to the attention of the 94th Meeting of the Bureau the following proposal in relation to the theme of COP 23. This proposal, which is made following consultation with Slovenia, Host Country of COP 23, is presented below for discussion during the 94th Bureau Meeting. It should be noted that the Host Country may also come with specific suggestions before or during the Meeting.

58. The proposed Theme “***Green transition in the Mediterranean: From decision to action***” as detailed below is provided to trigger discussions on the way forward and on the commitments that will be included in the Portoroz Ministerial Declaration.

59. The remarkable development of the regulatory framework that the Contracting Parties have adopted has not translated into a proportionate/equivalent improvement in the state of the environment. Evidence, including the findings of the SoED report, points to gaps in implementation at the national level. This comes in stark contrast with the genuinely vivid expressions of commitment encapsulated in the successive declarations adopted by the Contracting Parties. Where do the issues lie? What’s hindering enforcement and compliance? How can countries overcome national circumstances to move closer to Good Environment Status? How can civil society and other stakeholders effectively contribute? How can the regional framework of UNEP/MAP-Barcelona Convention catalyse action? Two years before marking the 50th anniversary of the UNEP/MAP-Barcelona Convention system, this is the time for a frank discussion and commitment for bold, coordinated policy action.

60. The implementation of pledges on building back greener is a mixed bag. For example, according to reports on capital investments, significant milestones have been accomplished globally towards titling the energy mix balance to renewables. But the recent energy crunch exacerbated by the ongoing conflicts has seen a frantic return to oil and gas. Struggling economies in parts of the Mediterranean and debt distress have meant that little in the way of public investment in a green future has been made. Two years after COP 22 in Antalya, at which the Contracting Parties committed to pursuing a green post-lockdown future, it is time to take stock and reflect on ways to unlock the green transition potential in the Mediterranean. In doing so, full account should be taken of the global evolutions, including the new global Treaties and UNEA-6, as well as of the relevant up-to-date studies such as the 2023 MED QSR and the MED2050 Foresight Study, but also the three Special Reports of MedECC emanating from MAR1.

Preparation of the Ministerial Declaration

61. These proposals on the theme of COP 23, following the advice of the Bureau and the respective refinements, will be also used as a basis for the preparation of the Portoroz Ministerial Declaration to be prepared under the leadership of the Host Country of COP 23 and under the guidance of the Bureau. For the preparation of the Ministerial Declaration, an online working group of Contracting

Parties could be established under the leadership of the Host Country, as per previous successful practice.

62. In the course of the preparation of the draft Portoroz Ministerial Declaration, the involvement of stakeholders will be sought, with a focus on MAP Partners and MCSD members. The involvement of stakeholders can be secured through either: (a) the MAP Partners being invited to contribute to an online Working Group formed of the Contracting Parties for the preparation of the draft Ministerial Declaration; or (b) a meeting with the MAP Partners/stakeholders being organized for their contribution to the draft Ministerial Declaration. Special emphasis will be also provided to the involvement of Youth, following the successful example of COP 21 and COP22. The Members of the MCSD are also expected to address during the 20th Meeting of the MCSD (Marseille France, 14-16 June 2023) issues of relevance to the Ministerial-level discussions of COP 23 and possibly provide inputs on elements that they would expect to be addressed in the draft Portoroz Ministerial Declaration. The 20th MCSD Meeting may also wish to propose a consultation process for further providing inputs of the MCSD to the Ministerial Declaration during the course of the coming months.

Proposed COP 22 Decisions

63. The Secretariat in consultation with the MAP Components has prepared the list of proposed COP 23 Decisions, Presented in Annex I of the present document. As shown in the list presented in Annex I, the suggested COP 23 Decisions are linked to the preparation and adoption of a number of substantive and strategic documents. The Secretariat made every effort to limit the number of proposed Decisions for COP 23, taking into account the nature of the strategic documents that need to be adopted by COP 23 as well as the fact that some issues can be addressed through the Programme of Work and Budget for 2024-2025 and the Report of the COP and not necessarily through a COP Decision.

64. The members of the Bureau are expected to discuss on the draft COP 23 Decisions included in the list, and to provide their guidance and advice to the Secretariat.

Organization of COP 23

65. The Secretariat is in continuous dialogue with Slovenia, the Host Country of COP 23, for the finalization of the Host Country Agreement for the COP. The Host Country Agreement preparations have been almost finalized and the Agreement is being prepared for signature. The preparation of the logistical aspects of the meeting has also started early in 2023 in close consultation with the Host Country team in charge of COP 23. To this end, the Coordinator has met on 5 April 2023 with the President of the Republic of Slovenia, Ms. Nataša Pirc Musar, and with the Minister for Natural Resources and Spatial Planning, Mr Uroš Brežan, to discuss the presence of the President at the COP and the preparations of the COP and in particular its High-Level Segment, including ways to enhance high-level participation. Furthermore, regular meetings are organized between the Secretariat and the Slovenian team to look both at organizational and substantial aspects of the COP, while ad hoc meetings and exchanges also take place, as need be.

66. Proposed Recommendations:

- (a) The Bureau welcomes the work by Slovenia and the Secretariat for the preparation of COP 23, and urges all Contracting Parties to ensure high level participation to the extent possible to maximise the UNEP/MAP-Barcelona Convention's system visibility considering also that UNEP Executive Director has confirmed her participation;**
- (b) The Bureau [agrees] with the proposed theme of the Ministerial Session and requests the Secretariat to timely proceed on the preparation of the Ministerial Session of COP 23;**
- (c) The Bureau agrees with the approach proposed by the Secretariat for the preparation of the Ministerial Declaration, and encourage both the Secretariat and the Host Country to draft the concept note and the first main elements of the Ministerial Declaration for submission to the meeting of the MAP Focal Points, where the theme will be agreed and the main elements of the Ministerial Declaration subsequently discussed;**
- (d) The Bureau takes note of the proposed list of draft Decisions for consideration by the MAP Focal Points and requests the Secretariat to finalize their preparation, taking into account the**

considerations of the Bureau at its 94th Meeting, in a timely manner for submission to the meeting of the MAP Focal Points.

E. Partnerships

a) Collaboration with FAO/GFCM

67. Collaboration with the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM) is proceeding well. Both Secretariats have significantly increased their interaction, exchange of information, expert knowledge, and cooperation on topics of common concern, including on marine litter, having in the spotlight a healthy Mediterranean including for its living resources. A meeting will be held on 29 May 2023 at the FAO/GFCM Headquarters in Rome between the UNEP/MAP Coordinator and the new Executive Secretary of FAO/GFCM, with the presence also of the Directors of SPA/RAC and INFO/RAC, to discuss advances in relation to the implementation of the MoU, the progress regarding the FishEBM Med Project and ideas for future cooperation.

b) Collaboration with the European Commission

68. In coordination with EC Directorate General for the Environment and with the Liaison Office to the European Union, the Secretariat has initiated cooperating also with the Directorate General for Maritime Affairs and Fishery (DG MARE) as well as with the Directorate General for Regional and Urban policies (DG REGIO). In the framework of the 2021/2027 European Union programming period the Secretariat has identified a number of initiatives and processes that are worth engaging with a twofold objective. It is in fact important to ensure coordination and develop synergies with these initiatives and processes, both at policy and operational/projects level, while they offer the possibility to further expand the UNEP/MAP resource mobilisation strategy and means and contribute to the UNEP/MAP communication and outreach objectives. More specifically, the EU initiatives and processes that have been identified for the first phase of the cooperation are: a) WestMed Initiative for the development of sustainable blue economy in the concerned region and by further reinforcing the presence and concrete contribution of the Secretariat as Observer of the WestMed Steering Committee; b) Blue Economy Observatory linked to measuring sustainability of the Blue Economy; c) Mission Ocean MED lighthouse to support shaping the future for an Healthy, Pollution free Mediterranean basin; d) BlueMissionMed that will support transformative innovative solutions in all forms (technological, social, business, governance) in the Mediterranean on blue economy; e) macroregional strategy for the Ionian Adriatic region (EUSAIR) by reinforcing the concrete contribution of the Secretariat, notably on pillars on blue economy and environment; f) monitor the developments towards the potential identification of a macroregional strategy at Mediterranean level; g) INTERREG transnational Programmes in the Mediterranean (INTERREG EURO-MED, INTERREG NEXT SOUTH, INTERREG ADRIAN) that finance transnational projects also on priorities covering environmental and sustainable development objectives.

c) Implementation of Agreement with Italy-Collaboration with the Italian Ministry of Environment and Energy Security (MASE)

69. The Bilateral Cooperation Agreement with the Italian Ministry of Environment and Energy Security (MASE) signed in November 2021, to support the implementation of a number of activities included in the UNEP/MAP PoW 2022-2023, through a significant financial contribution of 2.8 million Euros is under implementation and all activities are ongoing. A steering committee meeting was held in Athens, Greece, on 21-22 June 2022, which reviewed and approved the progress and financial report, as well as the activity fiches developed under the Bilateral Agreement. Following the Steering Committee meeting and further negotiations between UNEP/MAP and MASE, an Addendum to the MoU was signed on 17 November 2022, to further support the full implementation of several activities of the UNEP/MAP PoW 2022-2023 that had non-secured or not sufficient external resources with an additional allocation of 544,000 EUR. The implementation of activities supported through the Bilateral Cooperation Agreement with MASE is ongoing.

d) Action Plan “The Mediterranean: a model sea by 2030” (PAMEx)

70. As of October 2022, the Plan of Action for a Model Mediterranean Sea (PAMEx) has been supporting increased resource mobilization for nature and climate, bringing its partners closer together around common heightened ambitions for sustainable development in the region and giving further visibility to its actions. Efforts have been channeled to launch PAMEx Local Investment Finance

Facility (PLIFF) and develop a portfolio of projects aligned with the Barcelona Convention. A first portfolio of projects for the greening of Mediterranean ports has been implemented since early 2023 and projects proposals for nature-based solutions and the fight against pollution are currently discussed. With the support of its Technical Secretariat at UNEP MAP, PAMEx partners have also tightened their coordination agreeing on shared priorities over its first Steering Committee meeting gathering them in person for the first time on 24-25 January 2023 in Athens, Greece. The next committee will be held on 11 July 2023, online.

71. The platform initiative has also facilitated synergies among partners promoting the Mediterranean ambitions for nature and climate across multiple global (UNFCCC COP27, CBD COP15, IMPAC5, etc.) and regional events (First Coordination Meeting on the Mediterranean Strategy for the Prevention of, Preparedness, and Response to Marine Pollution from Ships 2022-2031, Forum Méditerranée du Futur, Post 2020 SAPBIO Donors Conference, etc). PAMEx has also facilitated a common declaration to scale-up funding for Marine Protected Areas and a common Mediterranean position for the Global Treaty on Plastic. It will organize side-events on the margins of the INC-2 on a global plastic treaty on 31st May 2023 and over the 20th Meeting of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development, 14-16 June 2023. More information are available on: <https://www.unep.org/unepmap/Partnerships/PAMEx>

e) UNCBD COP15

72. The UNEP/MAP-Barcelona Convention system, represented by SPA/RAC, has participated in the CDB COP 15 (Montreal, Canada, 7-19 December 2022) organised a joint Mediterranean Stand that exhibits the achievements of the UNEP/MAP-Barcelona Convention system and other regional partners involved in biodiversity conservation actions (ACCOBAMS, CEPF, MedPAN, the MBPC Community led by ETC-UMA, Prince Albert II Foundation, the “Together for the Med” partnership led by BlueSeeds, and The MedFund).

f) UNFCCC COP27

73. UNEP/MAP took part in the Mediterranean Pavilion located in the Blue Zone at UNFCCC COP 27 (6-18 November 2022, Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt). The Mediterranean Pavilion is the first of its kind to be set up at a UN Climate Change Conference. It is an initiative led by the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) together with UNEP/MAP and the PRIMA Foundation, along with a coalition of institutions dealing with climate action in the region. Two UNEP/MAP Components, Plan Bleu/RAC and SCP/RAC (MedWaves) (the UNEP/MAP Regional Activity Centre for sustainable consumption and production) were among the founding and funding partners of this initiative. The Network of Mediterranean Experts on Environmental and Climate Change (MedECC) acted as a scientific advisory council for the Pavilion activities. The Mediterranean Pavilion operated as a hub for activities and partnerships undertaken by regional public institutions, civil society organisations and private sector entities with the aim of catalysing an effective and rapid transition to a climate-resilient future. Approximately 60 events were organized at the Mediterranean Pavilion by Contracting Parties and partners including 6 events organized by the Secretariat and MAP Components, and two events organized by MedECC.

g) Collaboration with UfMS

74. The strengthening of collaboration with UfMS continued beyond the MedPavilion of COP 27 of UNFCCC. The UNEP/MAP Coordinator had in November 2022 in Athens, Greece, a meeting with the new Deputy Secretary General of UfM for Water, Environment and Blue Economy, Mr. Almotaz Abadi, to discuss issues of common interest, including current activities on the implementation of the MoU, the possible update of the Areas of Cooperation of the MoU, major upcoming meetings and events of joint interest, as well as ways to strengthen cooperation in the near future. The Senior Management of UNEP/MAP and Senior Management of UfM Secretariat met also on 30 March 2023 to enhance cooperation between UfMS and UNEP/MAP, and notably through the extension of the existing MoU (see below).

h) Collaboration with OECD

75. Following a bilateral meeting in 2023, there is growing interest for collaboration with OECD, who is expanding its outreach to non-OECD members through its External Committee, which addresses the MENA region relevant to the Mediterranean. It is also increasingly integrating the issue

of Oceans, as the item is spanning across several directorates of the organization (Environment directorate; Trade directorate; Agriculture, Fisheries; Science, Technology and Innovation directorate). A sustainable ocean initiative set up in 2019 mapped out ocean-related work across the house including country diagnostic on oceans, country programs with a green growth strategy review in Egypt and Morocco focused on climate issues rather than the ocean though, a plastic report issued in 2022 (Environment Directorate), a study on IUU fishing (Trade Directorate) and work on data beyond the OECD countries with the PINE database with 130 countries. OECD could support MAP in designing an ambitious new MSSD, *inter alia*, with general statistic and data to make the environmental and economic dimension converge. Furthermore, there is a lot of interest to collaborate with respect to Environmental Peer Review processes.

i) New Global Treaty on Plastic Pollution

76. As agreed by the 93rd Bureau Meeting (Thessaloniki, Greece, November/December 2022) and also supported by 24th MCSD Steering Committee meeting, the Secretariat has launched an informal consultation to establish an informal Task Force under UNEP/MAP to enable coordination among Contracting Party representatives during the negotiations of the new global legally binding instrument on plastic pollution including in the marine environment in view of implementation of the UNEA 5.2 Resolution regarding the development of a legally binding instrument on plastic pollution.

j) New and updated MoUs

77. In view of enhancing collaboration with key partners the Secretariat has started its procedures for renewing the Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs) that have expired. To this end, three new MoUs are under preparation, to replace the expired ones, with the following Organizations and Secretariats as highlighted below.

78. MOU with the Permanent Secretariat of the Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and Contiguous Atlantic Area (ACCOBAMS): The MOU will be focused on Promotion of ecosystem-based approaches for the conservation of marine environment and to monitor the status of the marine environment and ecosystems including aspects relating to the impacts of fisheries, marine litter and offshore activities on marine environment.

79. MOU with the Permanent Secretariat of the Commission on the Protection of the Black Sea Against Pollution (BSC): The MOU will be mainly focused on the integrated marine monitoring programmes focusing on delivering data to manage regional seas in sustainable manner. Also, it will refer to exchange of information regarding implementation of Integrated Coastal Zone Management Protocol.

80. MOU with the Regional Organization for the Conservation of the Environment of the Red Sea & Gulf of Aden (PERSGA): The MOU will focus on the sustainable management of the coastal and marine areas, living Marine Resources and Marine Biodiversity. Also, on the process for the Development of the African Strategy for Ocean Governance and to conduct capacity building programmes & workshops in addition to exchange of experts between the Parties.

81. Further to the above, the Secretariat is also working with the Secretariat of the Union for the Mediterranean to update the Appendix of the MOU signed in 2012 between the two organizations: The updated Appendix of the MOU will be focused on the pollution prevention and control of Mediterranean coastal and marine waters including marine litter; the protection of marine and coastal biodiversity and ecosystems; Integrated Coastal Zone Management, Marine Spatial Planning and Urban Development; other fields related to sustainable development and particularly Blue Economy, Circular Economy, Sustainable Consumption and Production, Climate Change, renewable energy and energy efficiency; information and communication.

k) MAP Partners

82. Following the call for new MAP Partners issued by the Secretariat during the previous biennium and its promotion through news items and outreach including during global and regional events, the Secretariat has received new applications from the following six non-governmental organizations for accreditation as MAP Partners: Zoï Environment Network (Zoï), Agreement on the creation of a marine mammals Sanctuary in the Mediterranean Sea (Pelagos Agreement), European Boating Industry (EBI), Euro-Mediterranean Economist Association (EMEA), European Bureau for

Conservation and Development (EBCD) and Cyprus Marine Environment Protection Association (CYMEPA).

83. The Secretariat has reviewed the documentation submitted in line with Decision IG.19/6 on “*MAP/Civil Society cooperation and partnership*”. The results of the evaluation of the applications are presented in Annex I to the present report for the Bureau’s consideration. From the analysis it was found that: a) The Headquarters of Zoï are in Switzerland. However, Zoï has been in contact with the MAP Coordination Unit and the RACs since 2009 focusing on two larger areas of interest: Environment and Security in the Mediterranean basin and Shared Environment Information System (SEIS) South. Their experience in the Mediterranean also includes a considerable number of projects with the State of Palestine, including raising awareness of climate change and environmental challenges, air quality improvement, and implementing the BRS and Minamata Conventions; b) Pelagos does not have the exact status of NGO; c) The Headquarters of the European Boating Industry are in Belgium, while their Mediterranean members are from Spain, France, Greece, Israel, Slovenia, and Italy. EBI has been cooperating with Plan Bleu/RAC and was an associated partner for the “Pharos4MPAs” project together with PAP/RAC, SPA.RAC and REMPEC; and d) the Headquarters of the EBCD are in Belgium, while their work is relevant to all European countries, including Mediterranean ones.

84. Furthermore, following the relevant discussion and conclusion of the 93rd Bureau meeting which requested “the Secretariat to further examine the application of AMWAJ Alliance/REVOLVE Mediterraneo for accreditation as MAP Partner, and further look into the scope of this organization, and refer to it possibly at the next Bureau meeting” the Secretariat has contacted the said organization and highlighted the importance that the scope of its work and profile should be in full alignment with MAP-Barcelona Convention objectives. AMWAJ Alliance/REVOLVE Mediterraneo acknowledged this need and reviewed its website to ensure full alignment. Following this, AMWAJ Alliance/REVOLVE Mediterraneo resubmitted an application for MAP Partner, which was reviewed by the Secretariat in line with Decision IG.19/6 on “*MAP/Civil Society cooperation and partnership*” (Annex I). The Secretariat found that the above organization meets the criteria for such accreditation.

85. Decision IG.19/6 on MAP/Civil society cooperation and partnership, provides for MAP policy on MAP Partners and addresses among other issues their accreditation. While that Decision scope covers generally MAP partners from civil society, the accreditation section covers only the NGOs. The Secretariat has received requests for partnership not only from NGOs but also from Universities and the scientific community, private sector, foundations, etc., as well as from organizations that do not have their Headquarters but they have activities in the Mediterranean. In this respect, the Secretariat plans to present a proposal to the next Meeting of Contracting Parties (COP 23) in order to allow more flexibility in the accreditation of MAP Partners, so as to (a) enlarge the scope to other stakeholders/non-profit organizations (such as scientific institutions/universities, private sector organizations, intergovernmental organizations), and (b) allow entities which do not have their headquarters or regional offices in the Mediterranean, but which have activities in the Mediterranean and actively contribute to the objectives of UNEP/MAP, to become MAP Partners.

86. In relation to the renewal of accreditation of existing MAP Partners, as a result of the efforts by the Secretariat and individual contacts with the Partners, the Secretariat has received two applications from MAP Partners for renewal of their accreditation, from “*FISPMED Onlus*” and from “*University of Siena - SDSN (Sustainable Development Solution Network)*”.

87. The Secretariat is in close contact with the remaining MAP Partner endorsed at COP 20 that has not yet submitted a request for renewal of accreditation (“*Plastics Europe*”), through individual emails and phone calls to ensure that the application is timely received in case the partner is indeed interested to renew its accreditation.

88. Proposed Recommendations:

(a) The Bureau welcomes the work of the Secretariat on enhancing ocean governance and on strengthening cooperation and partnerships with global and regional organizations for joint impact on the ground;

(b) The Bureau welcomes the work by the Secretariat to strengthen participation and involvement in global processes and to raise the UNEP/MAP-Barcelona Convention system’s

profile, its work and its contribution to the implementation of the SDGs, and encourages the Secretariat to further work in this direction;

(c) The Bureau welcomes the strengthened collaboration between UNEP/MAP and UfM Secretariat and requests the Secretariat to proceed in updating the Appendix of the MoU between UNEP/MAP and UfMS for submission to the MAP Focal Points and to COP 23 for consideration and endorsement;

(d) The Bureau welcomes the collaboration between UNEP/MAP and ACCOBAMS, Black Sea Commission and PERSGA and agrees that, following the expiration of the existing MoUs with these organizations, new MoUs with each of these partners are prepared and submitted to the MAP Focal Points and to COP 23 for consideration and endorsement;

(e) The Bureau endorses the results of the evaluation conducted by the Secretariat of the new application submitted by [Zoi Environment Network (Zoi)], [Agreement on the creation of a marine mammals Sanctuary in the Mediterranean Sea (Pelagos Agreement)], [European Boating Industry (EBI)], Euro-Mediterranean Economist Association (EMEA), [European Bureau for Conservation and Development (EBCD)], Cyprus Marine Environment Protection Association (CYMEPA) and AMWAJ / REVOLVE Mediterraneo (AMWAJ) as MAP Partners and requests that the Secretariat submits them to the MAP Focal Points and to COP 23 for consideration and endorsement;

(f) The Bureau requests the Secretariat to prepare a proposal in order to allow more flexibility in the accreditation of MAP Partners, so as to enlarge the scope to other stakeholders/non-profit organizations, and to allow entities which do not have their headquarters or regional offices in the Mediterranean, but which have activities in the Mediterranean and actively contribute to the objectives of UNEP/MAP, to become MAP Partners, and to submit this proposal to the MAP Focal Points and to COP 23 for consideration and endorsement;

(g) The Bureau endorses the proposal by the Secretariat to renew the accreditation as MAP Partners of the organizations “FISPMED Onlus” and from “University of Siena - SDSN (Sustainable Development Solution Network)” following the applications submitted by these organizations, and requests that the Secretariat submits them to the MAP Focal Points and to COP 23 for consideration and endorsement.

F. Outreach, Communication and Advocacy

89. An internal reflection on the articulation of a coordinated advocacy endeavor within the MAP system has identified a number of priorities that are listed in the following paragraphs.

90. Bring about a surge in the implementation of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols through nationally appropriate action.

91. Promote universal ratification of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols by achieving a higher rate of ratification of legal instruments.

92. Foster a greater integration of the MAP-Barcelona Convention system in sustainable development efforts around the Mediterranean. This includes mainstreaming the instruments, strategies and action plans into the work of UN Country Teams (UNCTs) in Mediterranean countries. The implementation of commitments undertaken by concerned countries within the framework of the UNEP/MAP-Barcelona Convention system has obvious benefits for the attainment of several SDGs and should therefore be at the heart of the UN Development Cooperation Frameworks drawn up under the leadership of the reformed Resident Coordinator systems in close cooperation with partner countries. This would go hand-in-hand with UNEP's global efforts to mainstream the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework in the work of UNCTs.

93. Promote a greater mainstreaming of science in policymaking, especially through the effective dissemination of the findings of MAP reports on the state of the environment and through the promotion of science-policy interfaces such as MedECC as well as of products such as the Mediterranean section of the World Environment Situation Room (WESR).

94. Encourage a greater uptake by the private sector, including through initiatives by private companies affiliated to the Global Compact in the Mediterranean region. Private sector initiatives that uphold or implement principles or regulations introduced by the UNEP/MAP-Barcelona Convention

system have the potential to act as trend-setters and to generate positive ripple effects across multiple economic sectors that currently harbor the very drivers of environmental degradation.

95. Proposed Recommendation:

(a) The Bureau welcomes the Secretariat's efforts in the field of outreach, communication and advocacy and calls upon Contracting Parties to accelerate efforts in the implementation of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols as the shortest path to addressing effectively the triple crisis of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution.

G. Internal Reflections on the Mandate and Composition of the Bureau of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols

96. Following the relevant discussions at the 93rd Bureau meeting (Thessaloniki, Greece, 30 November – 1 December 2022) the Secretariat has prepared some internal reflections on the mandate and composition of the Bureau, with a view of strengthening the Bureau's effectiveness. These reflections are presented in Annex III of the present document for the Bureau's consideration and advice on the way forward.

97. The Bureau members are invited to discuss the considerations and proposals, and provide guidance on the way forward.

98. Proposed Recommendation:

(a) The Bureau takes note of the work by the Secretariat in relation to the Mandate and Composition of the Bureau of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols and

H. Emerging Issues of Global and Mediterranean Relevance and Importance

99. The Secretariat would like to bring to the attention of the Bureau a number of important issues related to environment and sustainable development which are high in the global agenda and of relevance to the Mediterranean. Since there are recent and/or upcoming evolutions on these issues, the Secretariat is pursuing efforts to examine the potential role and mandate of the UNEP/MAP-Barcelona Convention system in a proactive manner and to make an initial assessment of the scope and relevance of these issues in relation to the work of UNEP/MAP. Such emerging issues include, *inter alia*, Food Systems, the new Treaty on Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction, Offshore Renewable Energy, Harmful Subsidies and Deep-Sea Mining.

100. The Bureau members are invited to discuss the potential role and mandate of the UNEP/MAP-Barcelona Convention System in relation to these issues and provide guidance to the Secretariat on the way forward.

101. Proposed Recommendation:

(a) The Bureau welcomes the proposal of the Secretariat to examine the implications of the identified emerging issues at global level to the work and mandate of UNEP/MAP and bring them to the attention of the MAP Focal Points.

Annex I

List of proposed draft Decisions for COP 23

Preliminary list of COP 23 decisions

| No. | Decision |
|-----|---|
| 1 | Compliance Committee: biennium 2022-2023 |
| 2 | <i>Governance (including MoUs-new/updated, EcAp Governance, Updated RMS, new and renewed MAP Partners/revised MAP Partner policy, MCSD Membership, MSSD Evaluation and Update, HCA of RACs, Updated Bureau ToRs)</i> |
| 3 | Reviewed Reporting Format for the Implementation of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols |
| 4 | Review of implementation of the EcAp Roadmap 2008-2021 and elements for a renewed EcAp Roadmap policy 2023; Mediterranean Quality Status Report/Executive Summary; Assessment Criteria for MEDPOL |
| 5 | MAP at 50 (1975-2025): celebrating five decades of relentless cooperation for healthy marine and coastal ecosystems in the Mediterranean |
| 6 | Strategies and Action Plans for the conservation of biodiversity, including area-based management and species and habitats conservation under the Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean |
| 7 | Harmonised regional procedures for the uniform implementation of the BWM Convention in the Mediterranean |
| 8 | Marine Spatial Planning in the Mediterranean |
| 9 | Regional Plan on Agriculture Management in the Framework of Article 15 of the Land Based Sources Protocol |
| 10 | Regional Plan on Aquaculture Management in the Framework of Article 15 of the Land Based Sources Protocol |
| 11 | Regional Plan on Stormwater Management in the Framework of Article 15 of the Land Based Sources Protocol |
| 12 | Updated Guidelines for the Dumping of Inert Uncontaminated Inorganic Geological Materials |
| 13 | Programme of Work and Budget for 2024 - 2025 |

Annex II

MAP Partner Applications Evaluation Table

INFORMATION ON THE APPLICANTS / INFORMATIONS SUR LES CANDIDATS

| ACRONYM/ ACRONYME | FULL NAME/NOM COMPLET | COUNTRY /PAYS | AIMS/OBJECTIFS |
|----------------------|---|---|--|
| Zoï | Zoï Environment Network | Switzerland (EU HQ Belgium) | Zoï Environment Network is a Swiss non-profit organization that helps to build sustainable societies and enhance understanding of environmental topics through informed policy analysis, communication and action. |
| Zoï | Réseau Zoï pour l'environnemen t | Suisse (siège de l'UE en Belgique) | Le réseau Zoï Environment est une organisation suisse à but non lucratif qui aide à construire des sociétés durables et à améliorer la compréhension des questions environnementales grâce à une analyse politique, une communication et une action éclairées. |

EVALUATION / ÉVALUATION**Part I: General conditions for accreditation / Partie I : Conditions générales pour l'accréditation**

Two categories of NGOs are eligible for observer status / Deux catégories d'ONG sont éligibles pour le statut d'observateur

| Zoï Environment Network | |
|---|---|
| International and regional NGOs / ONG internationales et régionales | ✓ |
| National and local NGOs from Mediterranean riparian states / ONG nationales et locales des États riverains de la Méditerranée | |

Both categories of NGOs should satisfy the following general conditions:

| Zoï Environment Network | |
|--|---|
| be representative in the field(s) of their competence and fields of action by the Mediterranean Action Plan Barcelona Convention and its Protocols / être représentatives dans leur(s) domaine(s) de compétence et leurs champs d'action dans le cadre du Plan d'action pour la Méditerranée (PAM) / Convention de Barcelone et de ses Protocoles; | ✓ |
| be able, through their work, to support the achievement of the objectives of the Mediterranean Action Plan/Barcelona Convention and its Protocols / être capables, au travers de son travail, d'appuyer la réalisation des objectifs du PAM / Convention de Barcelone et ses Protocoles; | ✓ |
| be able to make known the work of the Mediterranean Action Plan/Barcelona Convention and its Protocols in the region and/or their respective countries / être capables de faire connaître le travail du PAM / Convention de Barcelone et ses Protocoles dans la région et / ou dans leurs pays respectifs ; | ✓ |
| be able to contribute, through a specific project or programme, to the implementation of MAP/Barcelona Convention and its Protocols programme of activities / être capables de contribuer, au travers d'un projet ou d'un programme spécifique, à la mise en œuvre du programme d'activités du PAM / Convention de Barcelone et ses Protocoles ; | ✓ |
| be able to contribute, through a specific event or manifestation linked to a Mediterranean Action Plan field of activity, to public awareness-raising / être capables de contribuer, au travers d'un événement ou d'une manifestation spécifique associée à un champ d'activité du PAM, à la sensibilisation du public; | ✓ |
| be able to provide, through their specific activity or experience, expert advice on the definition of Mediterranean Action Plan policies, programmes and actions / être capables de fournir, au travers de leur activité spécifique ou de leur expérience, un avis d'expert sur la définition de politiques, programmes et actions pour le PAM; | ✓ |
| be able regularly to disseminate information to their members, where applicable, on the standards, activities and achievements of the Mediterranean Action Plan/Barcelona Convention in their own field(s) of competence / être capables de diffuser régulièrement des informations à leurs membres, le cas échéant, sur les normes, activités et réalisations du PAM / Convention de Barcelone dans leur(s) propre(s) domaine(s) de compétence; | ✓ |
| be able to furnish, either spontaneously or at the request of the Mediterranean Action Plan's different bodies, information, documents or opinions relating to their own field(s) of competence / être capables de fournir, spontanément ou à la demande des différents organes du PAM, des informations, documents ou opinions relatifs à leur(s) propre(s) domaine(s) de compétence. | ✓ |

Part II: Specific accreditation criteria and procedures / Partie II : Critères et procédures d'accréditation spécifiques
Accreditation / Accréditation

The following criteria apply to international and national/local NGOs:

Les critères suivants s'appliquent aux ONG internationales et nationales / locales :

| Zoï Environment Network | |
|--|---|
| to have legal status; terms of reference, objectives and scope of activities related to one or more of MAP's areas of activity and to the scope of the Convention and its Protocols / disposer d'un statut légal ; le mandat, les objectifs et le champ d'application des activités du candidat doivent être en rapport avec un ou plusieurs domaines d'activité du PAM et avec le champ d'application de la Convention et ses Protocoles; | ✓ |
| to have existed for at least 4 years / exister depuis au moins 4 ans; | ✓ |
| to submit financial and activity reports from the last two years / soumettre les états financiers et rapports d'activité des deux dernières années; | ✓ |
| to operate democratically / avoir un fonctionnement démocratique; | ✓ |
| to have their regional office or headquarters in a Mediterranean country / disposer d'un bureau ou d'un siège régional dans un pays méditerranéen; | [The headquarters of Zoï are in Switzerland. However, Zoï has been in contact with the MAP Coordination Unit and the RACs since 2009 focusing on two larger areas of interest: Environment and Security in the Mediterranean basin and Shared Environment Information System (SEIS) South. Their experience in the Mediterranean also includes a considerable number of projects with the State of Palestine, including raising awareness of climate change and environmental challenges, air quality improvement, and implementing the BRS and Minamata Conventions] |
| to demonstrate proof of general or specialised, technical or scientific competence on issues related to the activities of MAP, the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols / justifier sa compétence générale ou spécialisée, technique ou scientifique sur des questions associées aux activités du PAM, de la Convention de Barcelone et ses Protocoles; | ✓ |
| to demonstrate what contributions the NGO could make to MAP and the Convention and its Protocols / démontrer quelles contributions serait à même d'apporter l'ONG au PAM ainsi qu'à la Convention et ses Protocoles. | ✓ |

The following specific criteria apply to national/local NGOs:

Les critères suivants s'appliquent aux ONG nationales / locales :

| Zoï Environment Network | |
|---|--|
| NGO objectives genuinely related to the marine environment and coastal zones / Les objectifs de l'ONG sont véritablement associés à l'environnement marin et aux zones côtières; | |
| NGOs participating or wishing to participate in specific national or local programmes or projects on the implementation of the objectives of the MAP/Barcelona Convention and its Protocols / ONG participant ou souhaitant participer à des programmes ou projets nationaux ou locaux sur la mise en œuvre des objectifs du PAM / Convention de Barcelone et ses Protocoles. | |

INFORMATION ON THE APPLICANTS / INFORMATIONS SUR LES CANDIDATS

| ACRONYM/ ACRONYME | FULL NAME/NOM COMPLET | COUNTRY /PAYS | AIMS/OBJECTIFS |
|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|--|
| Pelagos Agreement | Agreement on the creation of a marine mammals Sanctuary in the Mediterranean Sea/ Accordo relativo alla creazione del Mediterraneo di un Santuario per I mammiferi marini | Monaco, (France, Italy) | <p>“The Pelagos Agreement, creating the Sanctuary for Mediterranean Marine Mammals, was signed in Rome by France, Italy and the Principality of Monaco in November 1999, and came into effect in February 2002.</p> <p>“The Agreement and, therefore, the Sanctuary exist as a multilateral diplomatic tool aimed at ensuring international cooperation and consultation among authorities promoting the protection of marine mammals and the conservation of their habitat through consultation with stakeholders. The Pelagos Agreement is indeed a pioneer in marine spatial planning applied to the conservation of marine mammals and their habitat1.”</p> <p>The Sanctuary extends for 87,500 km² and over more than 2,000 km of coasts belonging to 3 countries, 5 regions, 241 coastal municipalities. It also includes more than one hundred marine and coastal protected areas, national parks and Natura2000 sites.</p> <p>The Sanctuary is intended to enable socio-economic development while conserving the important habitats for the marine mammal species living in the area.</p> <p>Therefore, the Sanctuary is a unique area, with major scientific, socio-economic, cultural and educational interests managed by three Countries.</p> |
| Accord Pelagos | Accord Pelagos relative à la création en Méditerranée d'un Sanctuaire pour les mammifères marins / Accordo relativo alla creazione del Mediterraneo di un Santuario per I mammiferi marini | Monaco, (France, Italie) | <p>"L'Accord Pelagos, créant le Sanctuaire pour les mammifères marins de Méditerranée, a été signé à Rome par la France, l'Italie et la Principauté de Monaco en novembre 1999, et est entré en vigueur en février 2002.</p> <p>"L'Accord et, par conséquent, le Sanctuaire existent en tant qu'outil diplomatique multilatéral visant à assurer la coopération internationale et la consultation entre les autorités promouvant la protection des mammifères marins et la conservation de leur habitat par le biais de la consultation des parties prenantes. L'Accord Pelagos est en effet un pionnier en matière de planification spatiale marine appliquée à la conservation des mammifères marins et de leur habitat1."</p> <p>Le Sanctuaire s'étend sur 87 500 km² et plus de 2 000 km de côtes appartenant à 3 pays, 5 régions, 241 municipalités côtières. Il comprend également plus d'une centaine d'aires marines et côtières protégées, de parcs nationaux et de sites Natura2000.</p> <p>Le sanctuaire est destiné à permettre le développement socio-économique tout en conservant les habitats importants pour les espèces de mammifères marins vivant dans la zone.</p> <p>Le Sanctuaire est donc une zone unique, avec des intérêts scientifiques, socio-économiques, culturels et éducatifs majeurs gérés par trois pays.</p> |

EVALUATION / ÉVALUATION**Part I: General conditions for accreditation / Partie I : Conditions générales pour l'accréditation**

Two categories of NGOs are eligible for observer status / Deux catégories d'ONG sont éligibles pour le statut d'observateur

| Pelagos Agreement | |
|---|---|
| International and regional NGOs / ONG internationales et régionales | [Pelagos does not have the exact status of NGO] |
| National and local NGOs from Mediterranean riparian states / ONG nationales et locales des États riverains de la Méditerranée | |

Both categories of NGOs should satisfy the following general conditions:

| Pelagos Agreement | |
|--|---|
| be representative in the field(s) of their competence and fields of action by the Mediterranean Action Plan Barcelona Convention and its Protocols / être représentatives dans leur(s) domaine(s) de compétence et leurs champs d'action dans le cadre du Plan d'action pour la Méditerranée (PAM) / Convention de Barcelone et de ses Protocoles; | ✓ |
| be able, through their work, to support the achievement of the objectives of the Mediterranean Action Plan/Barcelona Convention and its Protocols / être capables, au travers de son travail, d'appuyer la réalisation des objectifs du PAM / Convention de Barcelone et ses Protocoles; | ✓ |
| be able to make known the work of the Mediterranean Action Plan/Barcelona Convention and its Protocols in the region and/or their respective countries / être capables de faire connaître le travail du PAM / Convention de Barcelone et ses Protocoles dans la région et / ou dans leurs pays respectifs; | ✓ |
| be able to contribute, through a specific project or programme, to the implementation of MAP/Barcelona Convention and its Protocols programme of activities / être capables de contribuer, au travers d'un projet ou d'un programme spécifique, à la mise en œuvre du programme d'activités du PAM / Convention de Barcelone et ses Protocoles; | ✓ |
| be able to contribute, through a specific event or manifestation linked to a Mediterranean Action Plan field of activity, to public awareness-raising / être capables de contribuer, au travers d'un événement ou d'une manifestation spécifique associée à un champ d'activité du PAM, à la sensibilisation du public; | ✓ |
| be able to provide, through their specific activity or experience, expert advice on the definition of Mediterranean Action Plan policies, programmes and actions / être capables de fournir, au travers de leur activité spécifique ou de leur expérience, un avis d'expert sur la définition de politiques, programmes et actions pour le PAM; | ✓ |
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| be able to furnish, either spontaneously or at the request of the Mediterranean Action Plan's different bodies, information, documents or opinions relating to their own field(s) of competence / être capables de fournir, spontanément ou à la demande des différents organes du PAM, des informations, documents ou opinions relatifs à leur(s) propre(s) domaine(s) de compétence. | ✓ |

Part II: Specific accreditation criteria and procedures / Partie II : Critères et procédures d'accréditation spécifiques
Accreditation / Accréditation

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| to have existed for at least 4 years / exister depuis au moins 4 ans; | ✓ |
| to submit financial and activity reports from the last two years / soumettre les états financiers et rapports d'activité des deux dernières années; | ✓ |
| to operate democratically / avoir un fonctionnement démocratique; | ✓ |
| to have their regional office or headquarters in a Mediterranean country / disposer d'un bureau ou d'un siège régional dans un pays méditerranéen; | ✓ |
| to demonstrate proof of general or specialised, technical or scientific competence on issues related to the activities of MAP, the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols / justifier sa compétence générale ou spécialisée, technique ou scientifique sur des questions associées aux activités du PAM, de la Convention de Barcelone et ses Protocoles; | ✓ |

| | |
|--|---|
| to demonstrate what contributions the NGO could make to MAP and the Convention and its Protocols / démontrer quelles contributions serait à même d'apporter l'ONG au PAM ainsi qu'à la Convention et ses Protocoles. | ✓ |
|--|---|

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| Pelagos Agreement | |
|---|--|
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| NGOs participating or wishing to participate in specific national or local programmes or projects on the implementation of the objectives of the MAP/Barcelona Convention and its Protocols / ONG participant ou souhaitant participer à des programmes ou projets nationaux ou locaux sur la mise en œuvre des objectifs du PAM / Convention de Barcelone et ses Protocoles. | |

INFORMATION ON THE APPLICANTS / INFORMATIONS SUR LES CANDIDATS

| ACRONYM/ ACRONYME | FULL NAME/NOM COMPLET | COUNTRY /PAYS | AIMS/OBJECTIFS |
|----------------------|--|---|--|
| EBI | European Boating Industry | Belgium (Spain, France, Greece, Israel, Slovenia, and Italy) | European Boating Industry (EBI) represents the recreational boating and nautical tourism industry in Europe. EBI is made up of the national associations representing the recreational boating industry in Europe, in addition to several individual organizations as sustaining members. EBI's mission is to advance and represent a sustainable boating and nautical tourism industry #MadeInEurope. |
| EBI | L'industrie nautique européenne | Belgique (Espagne, France, Grèce, Israël, Slovénie et Italie) | European Boating Industry (EBI) représente l'industrie de la navigation de plaisance et du tourisme nautique en Europe. L'EBI se compose des associations nationales représentant l'industrie de la navigation de plaisance en Europe, ainsi que de plusieurs organisations individuelles en tant que membres de soutien. La mission de l'EBI est de promouvoir et de représenter une industrie durable de la navigation de plaisance et du tourisme nautique #MadeInEurope. |

EVALUATION / ÉVALUATION

Part I: General conditions for accreditation / Partie I : Conditions générales pour l'accréditation

Two categories of NGOs are eligible for observer status / Deux catégories d'ONG sont éligibles pour le statut d'observateur

| EBI | |
|---|---|
| International and regional NGOs / ONG internationales et régionales | ✓ |
| National and local NGOs from Mediterranean riparian states / ONG nationales et locales des États riverains de la Méditerranée | |

Both categories of NGOs should satisfy the following general conditions:

| EBI | |
|--|---|
| be representative in the field(s) of their competence and fields of action by the Mediterranean Action Plan Barcelona Convention and its Protocols / être représentatives dans leur(s) domaine(s) de compétence et leurs champs d'action dans le cadre du Plan d'action pour la Méditerranée (PAM) / Convention de Barcelone et de ses Protocoles; | ✓ |
| be able, through their work, to support the achievement of the objectives of the Mediterranean Action Plan/Barcelona Convention and its Protocols / être capables, au travers de son travail, d'appuyer la réalisation des objectifs du PAM / Convention de Barcelone et ses Protocoles; | ✓ |
| be able to make known the work of the Mediterranean Action Plan/Barcelona Convention and its Protocols in the region and/or their respective countries / être capables de faire connaître le travail du PAM / Convention de Barcelone et ses Protocoles dans la région et / ou dans leurs pays respectifs; | ✓ |
| be able to contribute, through a specific project or programme, to the implementation of MAP/Barcelona Convention and its Protocols programme of activities / être capables de contribuer, au travers d'un projet ou d'un programme spécifique, à la mise en œuvre du programme d'activités du PAM / Convention de Barcelone et ses Protocoles; | ✓ |
| be able to contribute, through a specific event or manifestation linked to a Mediterranean Action Plan field of activity, to public awareness-raising / être capables de contribuer, au travers d'un événement ou d'une manifestation spécifique associée à un champ d'activité du PAM, à la sensibilisation du public; | ✓ |
| be able to provide, through their specific activity or experience, expert advice on the definition of Mediterranean Action Plan policies, programmes and actions / être capables de fournir, au travers de leur activité spécifique ou de leur expérience, un avis d'expert sur la définition de politiques, programmes et actions pour le PAM; | ✓ |
| be able regularly to disseminate information to their members, where applicable, on the standards, activities and achievements of the Mediterranean Action Plan/Barcelona Convention in their own field(s) of competence / être capables de diffuser régulièrement des informations à leurs membres, le cas échéant, sur les normes, activités et réalisations du PAM / Convention de Barcelone dans leur(s) propre(s) domaine(s) de compétence; | ✓ |

| | |
|--|---|
| be able to furnish, either spontaneously or at the request of the Mediterranean Action Plan's different bodies, information, documents or opinions relating to their own field(s) of competence / être capables de fournir, spontanément ou à la demande des différents organes du PAM, des informations, documents ou opinions relatifs à leur(s) propre(s) domaine(s) de compétence. | ✓ |
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Part II: Specific accreditation criteria and procedures / Partie II : Critères et procédures d'accréditation spécifiques

Accreditation / Accréditation

The following criteria apply to international and national/local NGOs:

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| EBI | |
|--|--|
| to have legal status; terms of reference, objectives and scope of activities related to one or more of MAP's areas of activity and to the scope of the Convention and its Protocols / disposer d'un statut légal ; le mandat, les objectifs et le champ d'application des activités du candidat doivent être en rapport avec un ou plusieurs domaines d'activité du PAM et avec le champ d'application de la Convention et ses Protocoles; | ✓ |
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| to submit financial and activity reports from the last two years / soumettre les états financiers et rapports d'activité des deux dernières années; | ✓ |
| to operate democratically / avoir un fonctionnement démocratique; | ✓ |
| to have their regional office or headquarters in a Mediterranean country / disposer d'un bureau ou d'un siège régional dans un pays méditerranéen; | [The headquarters of the association are in Belgium, but their Mediterranean members are from Spain, France, Greece, Israel, Slovenia, and Italy. EBI has been cooperating with Plan Bleu/RAC and was an associated partner for the "Pharos4MPAs" project together with PAP/RAC, SPA.RAC and REMPEC] |
| to demonstrate proof of general or specialised, technical or scientific competence on issues related to the activities of MAP, the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols / justifier sa compétence générale ou spécialisée, technique ou scientifique sur des questions associées aux activités du PAM, de la Convention de Barcelone et ses Protocoles; | ✓ |
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| EBI | |
|---|--|
| NGO objectives genuinely related to the marine environment and coastal zones / Les objectifs de l'ONG sont véritablement associés à l'environnement marin et aux zones côtières; | |
| NGOs participating or wishing to participate in specific national or local programmes or projects on the implementation of the objectives of the MAP/Barcelona Convention and its Protocols / ONG participant ou souhaitant participer à des programmes ou projets nationaux ou locaux sur la mise en œuvre des objectifs du PAM / Convention de Barcelone et ses Protocoles. | |

INFORMATION ON THE APPLICANTS / INFORMATIONS SUR LES CANDIDATS

| ACRONYM/ ACRONYME | FULL NAME/NOM COMPLET | COUNTRY /PAYS | AIMS/OBJECTIFS |
|------------------------------|---|--------------------------|--|
| EMEA | Euro- Mediterranean Economist Association | Spain | EMEA is an independent research institution and forum of debate that provides innovative, forward-looking thinking and political, socio-economic, environmental and financial integrated analyses on Europe, the Mediterranean and Africa in an emerging multipolar world. As a “think and act tank”, it strives to contribute decisively to the transition process in the Mediterranean and Africa amidst climatic challenges, unprecedented global financial and economic crises and geopolitical uncertainties and conflicts. |
| EMEA | Association des économistes euro- méditerranéens | Espagne | L'EMEA est une institution de recherche indépendante et un forum de débat qui fournit une réflexion innovante et prospective ainsi que des analyses politiques, socio-économiques, environnementales et financières intégrées sur l'Europe, la Méditerranée et l'Afrique dans un monde multipolaire émergent. En tant que "think and act tank", elle s'efforce de contribuer de manière décisive au processus de transition en Méditerranée et en Afrique dans un contexte de défis climatiques, de crises financières et économiques mondiales sans précédent et d'incertitudes et de conflits géopolitiques. |

EVALUATION / ÉVALUATION

Part I: General conditions for accreditation / Partie I : Conditions générales pour l'accréditation

Two categories of NGOs are eligible for observer status / Deux catégories d'ONG sont éligibles pour le statut d'observateur

| EMEA | |
|---|---|
| International and regional NGOs / ONG internationales et régionales | ✓ |
| National and local NGOs from Mediterranean riparian states / ONG nationales et locales des États riverains de la Méditerranée | |

Both categories of NGOs should satisfy the following general conditions:

| EMEA | |
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| be able, through their work, to support the achievement of the objectives of the Mediterranean Action Plan/Barcelona Convention and its Protocols / être capables, au travers de son travail, d'appuyer la réalisation des objectifs du PAM / Convention de Barcelone et ses Protocoles; | ✓ |
| be able to make known the work of the Mediterranean Action Plan/Barcelona Convention and its Protocols in the region and/or their respective countries / être capables de faire connaître le travail du PAM / Convention de Barcelone et ses Protocoles dans la région et / ou dans leurs pays respectifs; | ✓ |
| be able to contribute, through a specific project or programme, to the implementation of MAP/Barcelona Convention and its Protocols programme of activities / être capables de contribuer, au travers d'un projet ou d'un programme spécifique, à la mise en œuvre du programme d'activités du PAM / Convention de Barcelone et ses Protocoles; | ✓ |
| be able to contribute, through a specific event or manifestation linked to a Mediterranean Action Plan field of activity, to public awareness-raising / être capables de contribuer, au travers d'un événement ou d'une manifestation spécifique associée à un champ d'activité du PAM, à la sensibilisation du public; | ✓ |
| be able to provide, through their specific activity or experience, expert advice on the definition of Mediterranean Action Plan policies, programmes and actions / être capables de fournir, au travers de leur activité spécifique ou de leur expérience, un avis d'expert sur la définition de politiques, programmes et actions pour le PAM; | ✓ |
| be able regularly to disseminate information to their members, where applicable, on the standards, activities and achievements of the Mediterranean Action Plan/Barcelona Convention in their own field(s) of competence / être capables de diffuser régulièrement des informations à leurs membres, le cas échéant, sur les normes, activités et réalisations du PAM / Convention de Barcelone dans leur(s) propre(s) domaine(s) de compétence; | ✓ |

| | |
|--|---|
| be able to furnish, either spontaneously or at the request of the Mediterranean Action Plan's different bodies, information, documents or opinions relating to their own field(s) of competence / être capables de fournir, spontanément ou à la demande des différents organes du PAM, des informations, documents ou opinions relatifs à leur(s) propre(s) domaine(s) de compétence. | ✓ |
|--|---|

Part II: Specific accreditation criteria and procedures / Partie II : Critères et procédures d'accréditation spécifiques

Accreditation / Accréditation

The following criteria apply to international and national/local NGOs:

Les critères suivants s'appliquent aux ONG internationales et nationales / locales :

| EMEA | |
|--|---|
| to have legal status; terms of reference, objectives and scope of activities related to one or more of MAP's areas of activity and to the scope of the Convention and its Protocols / disposer d'un statut légal ; le mandat, les objectifs et le champ d'application des activités du candidat doivent être en rapport avec un ou plusieurs domaines d'activité du PAM et avec le champ d'application de la Convention et ses Protocoles; | ✓ |
| to have existed for at least 4 years / exister depuis au moins 4 ans; | ✓ |
| to submit financial and activity reports from the last two years / soumettre les états financiers et rapports d'activité des deux dernières années; | ✓ |
| to operate democratically / avoir un fonctionnement démocratique; | ✓ |
| to have their regional office or headquarters in a Mediterranean country / disposer d'un bureau ou d'un siège régional dans un pays méditerranéen; | ✓ |
| to demonstrate proof of general or specialised, technical or scientific competence on issues related to the activities of MAP, the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols / justifier sa compétence générale ou spécialisée, technique ou scientifique sur des questions associées aux activités du PAM, de la Convention de Barcelone et ses Protocoles; | ✓ |
| to demonstrate what contributions the NGO could make to MAP and the Convention and its Protocols / démontrer quelles contributions serait à même d'apporter l'ONG au PAM ainsi qu'à la Convention et ses Protocoles. | ✓ |

The following specific criteria apply to national/local NGOs:

Les critères suivants s'appliquent aux ONG nationales / locales :

| EMEA | |
|---|--|
| NGO objectives genuinely related to the marine environment and coastal zones / Les objectifs de l'ONG sont véritablement associés à l'environnement marin et aux zones côtières; | |
| NGOs participating or wishing to participate in specific national or local programmes or projects on the implementation of the objectives of the MAP/Barcelona Convention and its Protocols / ONG participant ou souhaitant participer à des programmes ou projets nationaux ou locaux sur la mise en œuvre des objectifs du PAM / Convention de Barcelone et ses Protocoles. | |

INFORMATION ON THE APPLICANTS / INFORMATIONS SUR LES CANDIDATS

| ACRONYM/ ACRONYME | FULL NAME/NOM COMPLET | COUNTRY /PAYS | AIMS/OBJECTIFS |
|----------------------|---|------------------|---|
| EBCD | European Bureau for Conservation and Development | Belgium | EBCD is a Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) based in Brussels (Belgium) at the heart of the European Union's legislative process. EBCD focuses on topics related to the interface between conservation and sustainable use, promoting the three pillars of sustainability (environment, social and economic) while specializing in maritime affairs, fisheries, aquaculture and oceans' governance. In that context, EBCD aims at building bridges between different stakeholders at the European and international levels, to achieve compromises on how to sustainably manage the oceans. |
| EBCD | Bureau européen pour la conservation et le développement | Belgique | L'EBCD est une organisation non gouvernementale (ONG) basée à Bruxelles (Belgique) au cœur du processus législatif de l'Union européenne. L'EBCD se concentre sur des sujets liés à l'interface entre la conservation et l'utilisation durable, en promouvant les trois piliers de la durabilité (environnement, social et économique) tout en se spécialisant dans les affaires maritimes, la pêche, l'aquaculture et la gouvernance des océans. Dans ce contexte, l'EBCD vise à jeter des ponts entre les différentes parties prenantes aux niveaux européen et international, afin de parvenir à des compromis sur la manière de gérer durablement les océans. |

EVALUATION / ÉVALUATION

Part I: General conditions for accreditation / Partie I : Conditions générales pour l'accréditation

Two categories of NGOs are eligible for observer status / Deux catégories d'ONG sont éligibles pour le statut d'observateur

| EBCD | |
|---|---|
| International and regional NGOs / ONG internationales et régionales | ✓ |
| National and local NGOs from Mediterranean riparian states / ONG nationales et locales des États riverains de la Méditerranée | |

Both categories of NGOs should satisfy the following general conditions:

| EBCD | |
|--|---|
| be representative in the field(s) of their competence and fields of action by the Mediterranean Action Plan Barcelona Convention and its Protocols / être représentatives dans leur(s) domaine(s) de compétence et leurs champs d'action dans le cadre du Plan d'action pour la Méditerranée (PAM) / Convention de Barcelone et de ses Protocoles; | ✓ |
| be able, through their work, to support the achievement of the objectives of the Mediterranean Action Plan/Barcelona Convention and its Protocols / être capables, au travers de son travail, d'appuyer la réalisation des objectifs du PAM / Convention de Barcelone et ses Protocoles; | ✓ |
| be able to make known the work of the Mediterranean Action Plan/Barcelona Convention and its Protocols in the region and/or their respective countries / être capables de faire connaître le travail du PAM / Convention de Barcelone et ses Protocoles dans la région et / ou dans leurs pays respectifs; | ✓ |
| be able to contribute, through a specific project or programme, to the implementation of MAP/Barcelona Convention and its Protocols programme of activities / être capables de contribuer, au travers d'un projet ou d'un programme spécifique, à la mise en œuvre du programme d'activités du PAM / Convention de Barcelone et ses Protocoles; | ✓ |
| be able to contribute, through a specific event or manifestation linked to a Mediterranean Action Plan field of activity, to public awareness-raising / être capables de contribuer, au travers d'un événement ou d'une manifestation spécifique associée à un champ d'activité du PAM, à la sensibilisation du public; | ✓ |
| be able to provide, through their specific activity or experience, expert advice on the definition of Mediterranean Action Plan policies, programmes and actions / être capables de fournir, au travers de leur activité spécifique ou de leur expérience, un avis d'expert sur la définition de politiques, programmes et actions pour le PAM; | ✓ |
| be able regularly to disseminate information to their members, where applicable, on the standards, activities and achievements of the Mediterranean Action Plan/Barcelona Convention in their own field(s) of competence / être capables de diffuser régulièrement des informations à leurs membres, le cas échéant, sur les normes, activités et réalisations du PAM / Convention de Barcelone dans leur(s) propre(s) domaine(s) de compétence; | ✓ |

| | |
|--|---|
| be able to furnish, either spontaneously or at the request of the Mediterranean Action Plan's different bodies, information, documents or opinions relating to their own field(s) of competence / être capables de fournir, spontanément ou à la demande des différents organes du PAM, des informations, documents ou opinions relatifs à leur(s) propre(s) domaine(s) de compétence. | ✓ |
|--|---|

Part II: Specific accreditation criteria and procedures / Partie II : Critères et procédures d'accréditation spécifiques

Accreditation / Accréditation

The following criteria apply to international and national/local NGOs:

Les critères suivants s'appliquent aux ONG internationales et nationales / locales :

| EBCD | |
|--|-----------------|
| to have legal status; terms of reference, objectives and scope of activities related to one or more of MAP's areas of activity and to the scope of the Convention and its Protocols / disposer d'un statut légal ; le mandat, les objectifs et le champ d'application des activités du candidat doivent être en rapport avec un ou plusieurs domaines d'activité du PAM et avec le champ d'application de la Convention et ses Protocoles; | ✓ |
| to have existed for at least 4 years / exister depuis au moins 4 ans; | ✓ |
| to submit financial and activity reports from the last two years / soumettre les états financiers et rapports d'activité des deux dernières années; | ✓ |
| to operate democratically / avoir un fonctionnement démocratique; | ✓ |
| to have their regional office or headquarters in a Mediterranean country / disposer d'un bureau ou d'un siège régional dans un pays méditerranéen; | [HQ in Belgium] |
| to demonstrate proof of general or specialised, technical or scientific competence on issues related to the activities of MAP, the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols / justifier sa compétence générale ou spécialisée, technique ou scientifique sur des questions associées aux activités du PAM, de la Convention de Barcelone et ses Protocoles; | ✓ |
| to demonstrate what contributions the NGO could make to MAP and the Convention and its Protocols / démontrer quelles contributions serait à même d'apporter l'ONG au PAM ainsi qu'à la Convention et ses Protocoles. | ✓ |

The following specific criteria apply to national/local NGOs:

Les critères suivants s'appliquent aux ONG nationales / locales :

| EBCD | |
|---|--|
| NGO objectives genuinely related to the marine environment and coastal zones / Les objectifs de l'ONG sont véritablement associés à l'environnement marin et aux zones côtières; | |
| NGOs participating or wishing to participate in specific national or local programmes or projects on the implementation of the objectives of the MAP/Barcelona Convention and its Protocols / ONG participant ou souhaitant participer à des programmes ou projets nationaux ou locaux sur la mise en œuvre des objectifs du PAM / Convention de Barcelone et ses Protocoles. | |

INFORMATION ON THE APPLICANTS / INFORMATIONS SUR LES CANDIDATS

| ACRONYM/ ACRONYME | FULL NAME/NOM COMPLET | COUNTRY /PAYS | AIMS/OBJECTIFS |
|----------------------|--|------------------|--|
| CYMEPA | Cyprus Marine Environment Protection Association | Cyprus | The principal aim of CYMEPA is to encourage and actively assist effective efforts to prevent all forms of pollution of the sea by helping seafarers and executives to be more aware of safety and the protection of the marine environment. CYMEPA also initiates environmental projects and operates extensive public awareness campaigns, giving priority to environmental education of Schoolchildren. CYMEPA supports and assists the Government of Cyprus in ratifying and implementing international conventions addressing the protection of the marine environment. |
| CYMEPA | Association chypriote de protection de l'environnement marin | Chypre | L'objectif principal de CYMEPA est d'encourager et de soutenir activement les efforts efficaces de prévention de toutes les formes de pollution de la mer en aidant les marins et les cadres à être plus conscients de la sécurité et de la protection de l'environnement marin. CYMEPA lance également des projets environnementaux et organise de vastes campagnes de sensibilisation du public, en donnant la priorité à l'éducation environnementale des écoliers. CYMEPA soutient et aide le gouvernement de Chypre à ratifier et à mettre en œuvre les conventions internationales relatives à la protection de l'environnement marin. |

EVALUATION / ÉVALUATION

Part I: General conditions for accreditation / Partie I : Conditions générales pour l'accréditation

Two categories of NGOs are eligible for observer status / Deux catégories d'ONG sont éligibles pour le statut d'observateur

| CYMEPA | |
|---|---|
| International and regional NGOs / ONG internationales et régionales | |
| National and local NGOs from Mediterranean riparian states / ONG nationales et locales des États riverains de la Méditerranée | ✓ |

Both categories of NGOs should satisfy the following general conditions:

| CYMEPA | |
|--|---|
| be representative in the field(s) of their competence and fields of action by the Mediterranean Action Plan Barcelona Convention and its Protocols / être représentatives dans leur(s) domaine(s) de compétence et leurs champs d'action dans le cadre du Plan d'action pour la Méditerranée (PAM) / Convention de Barcelone et de ses Protocoles; | ✓ |
| be able, through their work, to support the achievement of the objectives of the Mediterranean Action Plan/Barcelona Convention and its Protocols / être capables, au travers de son travail, d'appuyer la réalisation des objectifs du PAM / Convention de Barcelone et ses Protocoles; | ✓ |
| be able to make known the work of the Mediterranean Action Plan/Barcelona Convention and its Protocols in the region and/or their respective countries / être capables de faire connaître le travail du PAM / Convention de Barcelone et ses Protocoles dans la région et / ou dans leurs pays respectifs; | ✓ |
| be able to contribute, through a specific project or programme, to the implementation of MAP/Barcelona Convention and its Protocols programme of activities / être capables de contribuer, au travers d'un projet ou d'un programme spécifique, à la mise en œuvre du programme d'activités du PAM / Convention de Barcelone et ses Protocoles; | ✓ |
| be able to contribute, through a specific event or manifestation linked to a Mediterranean Action Plan field of activity, to public awareness-raising / être capables de contribuer, au travers d'un événement ou d'une manifestation spécifique associée à un champ d'activité du PAM, à la sensibilisation du public; | ✓ |
| be able to provide, through their specific activity or experience, expert advice on the definition of Mediterranean Action Plan policies, programmes and actions / être capables de fournir, au travers de leur activité spécifique ou de leur expérience, un avis d'expert sur la définition de politiques, programmes et actions pour le PAM; | ✓ |
| be able regularly to disseminate information to their members, where applicable, on the standards, activities and achievements of the Mediterranean Action Plan/Barcelona Convention in their own field(s) of competence / être capables de diffuser régulièrement des informations à leurs membres, le cas échéant, sur les normes, activités et réalisations du PAM / Convention de Barcelone dans leur(s) propre(s) domaine(s) de compétence; | ✓ |

| | |
|--|---|
| be able to furnish, either spontaneously or at the request of the Mediterranean Action Plan's different bodies, information, documents or opinions relating to their own field(s) of competence / être capables de fournir, spontanément ou à la demande des différents organes du PAM, des informations, documents ou opinions relatifs à leur(s) propre(s) domaine(s) de compétence. | ✓ |
|--|---|

Part II: Specific accreditation criteria and procedures / Partie II : Critères et procédures d'accréditation spécifiques

Accreditation / Accréditation

The following criteria apply to international and national/local NGOs:

Les critères suivants s'appliquent aux ONG internationales et nationales / locales :

| CYMEPA | |
|--|---|
| to have legal status; terms of reference, objectives and scope of activities related to one or more of MAP's areas of activity and to the scope of the Convention and its Protocols / disposer d'un statut légal ; le mandat, les objectifs et le champ d'application des activités du candidat doivent être en rapport avec un ou plusieurs domaines d'activité du PAM et avec le champ d'application de la Convention et ses Protocoles; | ✓ |
| to have existed for at least 4 years / exister depuis au moins 4 ans; | ✓ |
| to submit financial and activity reports from the last two years / soumettre les états financiers et rapports d'activité des deux dernières années; | ✓ |
| to operate democratically / avoir un fonctionnement démocratique; | ✓ |
| to have their regional office or headquarters in a Mediterranean country / disposer d'un bureau ou d'un siège régional dans un pays méditerranéen; | ✓ |
| to demonstrate proof of general or specialised, technical or scientific competence on issues related to the activities of MAP, the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols / justifier sa compétence générale ou spécialisée, technique ou scientifique sur des questions associées aux activités du PAM, de la Convention de Barcelone et ses Protocoles; | ✓ |
| to demonstrate what contributions the NGO could make to MAP and the Convention and its Protocols / démontrer quelles contributions serait à même d'apporter l'ONG au PAM ainsi qu'à la Convention et ses Protocoles. | ✓ |

The following specific criteria apply to national/local NGOs:

Les critères suivants s'appliquent aux ONG nationales / locales :

| CYMEPA | |
|---|---|
| NGO objectives genuinely related to the marine environment and coastal zones / Les objectifs de l'ONG sont véritablement associés à l'environnement marin et aux zones côtières; | ✓ |
| NGOs participating or wishing to participate in specific national or local programmes or projects on the implementation of the objectives of the MAP/Barcelona Convention and its Protocols / ONG participant ou souhaitant participer à des programmes ou projets nationaux ou locaux sur la mise en œuvre des objectifs du PAM / Convention de Barcelone et ses Protocoles. | ✓ |

INFORMATION ON THE APPLICANTS / INFORMATIONS SUR LES CANDIDATS

| ACRONYM/ ACRONYME | FULL NAME/NOM COMPLET | COUNTRY /PAYS | AIMS/OBJECTIFS |
|----------------------|---|------------------|--|
| | AMWAJ / REVOLVE Mediterraneo | Spain | <p>REVOLVE Mediterraneo (REVOLVE) is a Spanish non-profit association managing the AMWAJ Alliance; REVOLVE applies here as the legal entity behind AMWAJ, and would suggest having AMWAJ Alliance on the UNEP-MAP Partner page since AMWAJ is our Mediterranean focus.</p> <p>REVOLVE Mediterraneo, provides communication services for its projects, and through its initiative AMWAJ Alliance – A Mediterranean Water And Journalism project for sustainable development – builds capacity for young journalists to report more accurately on water-related challenges confronting societies around the Mediterranean. AMWAJ includes a forum every two years, regular content development, media training and a small grant scheme for investing in local sustainable development efforts.</p> |
| | AMWAJ / REVOLVE Mediterraneo | Espagne | <p>REVOLVE Mediterraneo (REVOLVE) est une association espagnole à but non lucratif gérant l'Alliance AMWAJ ; REVOLVE dépose sa demande en tant qu'entité juridique derrière AMWAJ, et suggérerait d'avoir AMWAJ Alliance sur la page des partenaires du PNUE-MAP puisque AMWAJ est notre centre d'intérêt méditerranéen.</p> <p>REVOLVE Mediterraneo, fournit des services de communication pour ses projets et, par le biais de son initiative AMWAJ Alliance - un projet méditerranéen sur l'eau et le journalisme pour le développement durable - renforce la capacité des jeunes journalistes à rendre compte avec plus de précision des défis liés à l'eau auxquels sont confrontées les sociétés autour de la Méditerranée. AMWAJ comprend un forum tous les deux ans, un développement régulier du contenu, une formation aux médias et un système de petites subventions pour investir dans les efforts locaux de développement durable.</p> |

EVALUATION / ÉVALUATION

Part I: General conditions for accreditation / Partie I : Conditions générales pour l'accréditation

Two categories of NGOs are eligible for observer status / Deux catégories d'ONG sont éligibles pour le statut d'observateur

| AMWAJ | |
|---|---|
| International and regional NGOs / ONG internationales et régionales | ✓ |
| National and local NGOs from Mediterranean riparian states / ONG nationales et locales des États riverains de la Méditerranée | |

Both categories of NGOs should satisfy the following general conditions:

| AMWAJ | |
|--|---|
| be representative in the field(s) of their competence and fields of action by the Mediterranean Action Plan Barcelona Convention and its Protocols / être représentatives dans leur(s) domaine(s) de compétence et leurs champs d'action dans le cadre du Plan d'action pour la Méditerranée (PAM) / Convention de Barcelone et de ses Protocoles; | ✓ |
| be able, through their work, to support the achievement of the objectives of the Mediterranean Action Plan/Barcelona Convention and its Protocols / être capables, au travers de son travail, d'appuyer la réalisation des objectifs du PAM / Convention de Barcelone et ses Protocoles; | ✓ |
| be able to make known the work of the Mediterranean Action Plan/Barcelona Convention and its Protocols in the region and/or their respective countries / être capables de faire connaître le travail du PAM / Convention de Barcelone et ses Protocoles dans la région et / ou dans leurs pays respectifs; | ✓ |
| be able to contribute, through a specific project or programme, to the implementation of MAP/Barcelona Convention and its Protocols programme of activities / être capables de contribuer, au travers d'un projet ou d'un programme spécifique, à la mise en œuvre du programme d'activités du PAM / Convention de Barcelone et ses Protocoles; | ✓ |
| be able to contribute, through a specific event or manifestation linked to a Mediterranean Action Plan field of activity, to public awareness-raising / être capables de contribuer, au travers d'un événement ou d'une manifestation spécifique associée à un champ d'activité du PAM, à la sensibilisation du public; | ✓ |

| | |
|--|---|
| be able to provide, through their specific activity or experience, expert advice on the definition of Mediterranean Action Plan policies, programmes and actions / être capables de fournir, au travers de leur activité spécifique ou de leur expérience, un avis d'expert sur la définition de politiques, programmes et actions pour le PAM; | ✓ |
| be able regularly to disseminate information to their members, where applicable, on the standards, activities and achievements of the Mediterranean Action Plan/Barcelona Convention in their own field(s) of competence / être capables de diffuser régulièrement des informations à leurs membres, le cas échéant, sur les normes, activités et réalisations du PAM / Convention de Barcelone dans leur(s) propre(s) domaine(s) de compétence; | ✓ |
| be able to furnish, either spontaneously or at the request of the Mediterranean Action Plan's different bodies, information, documents or opinions relating to their own field(s) of competence / être capables de fournir, spontanément ou à la demande des différents organes du PAM, des informations, documents ou opinions relatifs à leur(s) propre(s) domaine(s) de compétence. | ✓ |

Part II: Specific accreditation criteria and procedures / Partie II : Critères et procédures d'accréditation spécifiques
Accreditation / Accréditation

The following criteria apply to international and national/local NGOs:

Les critères suivants s'appliquent aux ONG internationales et nationales / locales :

| AMWAJ | |
|--|---|
| to have legal status; terms of reference, objectives and scope of activities related to one or more of MAP's areas of activity and to the scope of the Convention and its Protocols / disposer d'un statut légal ; le mandat, les objectifs et le champ d'application des activités du candidat doivent être en rapport avec un ou plusieurs domaines d'activité du PAM et avec le champ d'application de la Convention et ses Protocoles; | ✓ |
| to have existed for at least 4 years / exister depuis au moins 4 ans; | ✓ |
| to submit financial and activity reports from the last two years / soumettre les états financiers et rapports d'activité des deux dernières années; | ✓ |
| to operate democratically / avoir un fonctionnement démocratique; | ✓ |
| to have their regional office or headquarters in a Mediterranean country / disposer d'un bureau ou d'un siège régional dans un pays méditerranéen; | ✓ |
| to demonstrate proof of general or specialised, technical or scientific competence on issues related to the activities of MAP, the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols / justifier sa compétence générale ou spécialisée, technique ou scientifique sur des questions associées aux activités du PAM, de la Convention de Barcelone et ses Protocoles; | ✓ |
| to demonstrate what contributions the NGO could make to MAP and the Convention and its Protocols / démontrer quelles contributions serait à même d'apporter l'ONG au PAM ainsi qu'à la Convention et ses Protocoles. | ✓ |

The following specific criteria apply to national/local NGOs:

Les critères suivants s'appliquent aux ONG nationales / locales :

| AMWAJ | |
|---|--|
| NGO objectives genuinely related to the marine environment and coastal zones / Les objectifs de l'ONG sont véritablement associés à l'environnement marin et aux zones côtières; | |
| NGOs participating or wishing to participate in specific national or local programmes or projects on the implementation of the objectives of the MAP/Barcelona Convention and its Protocols / ONG participant ou souhaitant participer à des programmes ou projets nationaux ou locaux sur la mise en œuvre des objectifs du PAM / Convention de Barcelone et ses Protocoles. | |

Annex III

Mandate and Composition of the Bureau: Internal Reflection

Mandate and Role of the Bureau within the UNEP/MAP-Barcelona Convention system

The creation, mandate, function and composition of the Bureau is regulated through:

a) Barcelona Convention. Art. 19 (Bureau) that provides as follows:

1. The Bureau of the Contracting Parties shall be composed of representatives of the Contracting Parties elected by the Meetings of the Contracting Parties. In electing the members of the Bureau, the Meetings of the Contracting Parties shall observe the principle of equitable geographical distribution.
2. The functions of the Bureau and the terms and conditions upon which it shall operate shall be set in the Rules of Procedure adopted by the Meetings of the Contracting Parties.

b) "Rules of Procedure for meetings and conferences of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against pollution and its related Protocols" adopted in 1983 (COP 3) and amended in 1989 (COP 6) and 1993 (COP 8). These rules regulate the composition, the mandate of the Bureau in running the Meetings of the Contracting Parties as well as the nominations of Bureau members.

c) Terms of Reference of the Bureau of the Contracting Parties to Barcelona Convention, adopted by Decision IG.21/9, adopted by the 18th Meeting of the Contracting Parties (Istanbul, Türkiye, 3-6 December 2013), as amended by Decision IG.22/15, adopted by the 19th Meeting of the Contracting Parties (Athens, Greece, 9-12 February 2016 - Bureau ToRs).

Based on the above, the following derive:

Mandate

The general mandate of the Bureau is set in Art. 9 of the Bureau ToRs. Further functions are given to the Bureau with respect to the Program of Work and Budget (Art. 10 of the Bureau ToRs), external relations (Art. 11 of the Bureau ToRs) and emergency situations (Art. 12 of the Bureau ToRs).

2. The Bureau is not a negotiating body. In the intersessional period between ordinary meetings of the Contracting Parties, and on their behalf, the Bureau reviews and evaluates progress in the implementation of the Convention and its protocols, and the decisions of the Contracting Parties, and provides guidance and advice to the Secretariat on all policy and administrative matters related to such implementation.

3. The Bureau makes recommendations, as appropriate, for consideration at the following meeting of the Contracting Parties, on issues of the agenda of that meeting, and overviews the preparations for those meetings including advice to the Secretariat on how to enhance the preparations, efficiency and results of the meetings of the Contracting Parties, and on any other matters brought to it by the Secretariat.

5. The Bureau works together with the Secretariat on measures to enhance the functioning of the Secretariat and MAP Components, taking into account, inter alia, cost benefit analyses, performance and success indicators. To this aim, an evaluation report shall be submitted to Meetings of the Contracting Parties to facilitate on future planning of the Barcelona System.

The above mentioned provisions make it clear that it is the role of the Bureau to provide guidance and advice to the Secretariat on three groups of issues:

1. All policy and administrative matters related to the implementation of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols, as well as the decisions of the Contracting Parties;
2. The preparation and efficient organisation of the Meeting of the Contracting Parties; and
3. The enhancement of the functioning of the Secretariat and MAP Components.

Furthermore, the Bureau is given a specific role in carrying out the decisions of the Meeting of Contracting Parties, as provided for in Art. 9, para. 4 of the Bureau ToRs:

4. The Bureau carries out interim activities as may be necessary to execute the decisions of the Contracting Parties and performs any other function as may be entrusted to it by the Conference of the Parties.

The role of the Bureau is therefore to provide recommendations to execute the decisions of Contracting Parties, including those decisions relative to the budget and payment of contributions. It would logically follow from the above position that the Bureau may address its conclusions not only to the Secretariat and the MAP Components, but also to the Contracting Parties themselves, in the measure in which this is necessary for executing the decision of the Parties.

Composition of the Bureau

Based on the provisions of Article 19 of the Barcelona Convention, the Rules of Procedure for meetings and conferences of the Contracting Parties, and the Bureau ToRs, the Bureau is composed of six members. The MAP Coordinator shall sit ex officio on the Bureau and any other Party can participate at the Bureau meetings as observer:

Article 3, para 5 of the Bureau ToRs provides that “[t]he Coordinator shall assist the Bureau in its work and shall sit ex-officio on the Bureau”.

Article 5, para. 4 of the Bureau ToRs provides that “[t]he Bureau may invite any Contracting Party which so requests to participate as an observer in its deliberations on any matter of particular concern to that Party, on their own expense”.

According to the Bureau ToRs, ex officio members of the Bureau are:

1. A representative of the State that is going to host the next Meeting of the Contracting Parties, in case of no decision on the host country at the moment of the election of the Bureau members.
2. The UNEP/MAP Coordinator.

Regarding the other 5 Members, one is a representative of the State hosting the current Meeting of the Contracting Parties (President) and the other 4 members are elected among the remaining Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention. **There is currently no express provision according to which the State that presided the previous Meeting of the Contracting Parties participates ex officio in the Bureau.**

Based on the above provisions, three options have been identified for ensuring continuity from one Presidency to the next one:

- a. **Option 1:** the former Presidency becomes an ex officio member to the Bureau, while the future Presidency of the next subsequent COP is already decided and included as Bureau member. This means that the Bureau will have 6 members and two members who sits ex officio on the Bureau (the former Presidency and the MAP Coordinator)*

This option would require a decision by the Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols, that would amend the Bureau ToRs.

The main disadvantage of this solution is the difficult implementation of the rotation principle.

- b. **Option 2:** the former Presidency becomes an ex officio member to the Bureau, while the future Presidency of the next subsequent COP is not yet decided at the time of Bureau election. This option includes 3 ex officio members of the Bureau, i.e. the former Presidency, the future Presidency and the MAP Coordinator.*

This amendment would require a decision by the Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols, that would amend the Bureau ToRs.

This option would allow that all 6 ordinary members of the Bureau are elected based on Article 19 of the Barcelona Convention and Rules of Procedures.

- c. **Option 3:** Both the former presidency and the future presidency are elected as ex officio Bureau members.*

The only disadvantage of this option is the higher cost to cover two more participants in the Bureau meeting, although the benefits are larger from the substantive point of view.