

**Mediterranean  
Action Plan**  
Barcelona  
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95<sup>th</sup> 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

Ljubljana, Slovenia, 3-4 April 2024

**Agenda Item 3: Progress Report for October 2023 - February 2024**

**Progress Report by the Secretariat on the Implementation of COP23 Decisions**

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	for the case of Mar Menor and further <i>encourage</i> their efforts to achieve full compliance with the requirements and obligations of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols following recommendations of the Compliance Committee and report.	<b>5.1.1</b>								
	6. <i>Elect</i> the candidates nominated by the Contracting Parties listed in Annex IV to this present Decision as members and alternate members of the Compliance Committee respectively.	<b>YELLOW</b>								
<b>Decision IG.26/2 Governance</b>	1. <i>Approve</i> the updated Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between UNEP/MAP and the Secretariat of the Union of the Mediterranean (UfMS), set out in Annex I to this Decision, and request the Secretariat to proceed towards its signature;	<b>YELLOW 5.4.1.b</b>								
	2. <i>Also approve</i> the Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) between UNEP/MAP and the Permanent Secretariat of the Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and contiguous Atlantic Area (ACCOBAMS), between UNEP/MAP and the Permanent Secretariat of the Commission on the Protection of the Black Sea Against Pollution (BSC), and between UNEP/MAP and the Regional Organization for the Conservation of the Environment of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden (PERSGA), set out in Annex II to this Decision, and <i>request</i> the Secretariat to proceed towards their signature;	<b>YELLOW 5.4.1.b</b>								
	3. <i>Endorse</i> the list of new and renewed MAP Partners, set out in Annex III to this Decision; <i>note with appreciation</i> the contribution of all partners to the work of the UNEP/MAP-Barcelona Convention system, and <i>encourage</i> the Secretariat to continue reaching out and working closely with partners to further strengthen and enhance collaboration and governance for the protection of the marine environment and coastal region of and promoting sustainable development in the Mediterranean;	<b>YELLOW 5.4.1.c</b>								

	4. <i>Approve</i> the amendments to the partner policy as set out in Annex V of the present Decision, amending Decision 19/6 on “ <i>MAP/Civil society cooperation and partnership</i> ”, so as to enlarge the scope to other stakeholders (such as scientific institutions/universities, intergovernmental organizations, private sector organizations), and to enable 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;	<b>GREEN</b> 5.4.1.										
	5. <i>Authorise</i> UNEP/MAP Secretariat to hosting PAMEx Technical Secretariat with a view to maximizing mutual synergies and further implementation of the UNEP/MAP-Barcelona Convention, without any budgetary implications to MAP;	<b>GREEN</b> 5.4.1.d.										
	6. <i>Adopt</i> the updated Resource Mobilization Strategy, contained in Annex IV to this Decision, and its Appendix 1 providing indicative resource needs and potential donors and partners for the implementation of the UNEP/MAP MTS 2022-2027 and <i>request</i> the Secretariat and MAP Components to strengthen their efforts in mobilizing external resources needed for the effective implementation of biennial Programmes of Work and MTS 2022-2027;	<b>YELLOW</b> 5.2.5.b.										
	7. <i>Urge</i> Contracting Parties and <i>invite</i> other relevant partner and donor organizations to support the implementation of the updated Resource Mobilization Strategy, in order to ensure adequate financial resources for the implementation of the UNEP/MAP Mid-Term Strategy 2022-2027 and associated Programme of Work;	<b>YELLOW</b> 5.2.5.b.										
	8. <i>Agree</i> with the amendment of the ToRs of the Bureau as set out in Annex VI of the present Decision, in order to allow the possibility for the election of the Contracting Party representing the Presidency of the previous COP as a Bureau ex-officio member, to enhance continuity in the work of the Bureau;	<b>GREEN</b> 5.2.3.a.										
	9. <i>Request</i> the governments of MAP Components’ Host Countries											



<p>in this context, <i>highlight</i> that any regular update should allow sufficient time for negotiation and endorsement by the CORMON and the COP before the assessment phase of next Mediterranean Quality Status Report has started;</p>									
<p>5. <i>Take note of</i> the findings of the independent evaluation of the Ecosystem Approach Roadmap, and <i>welcome</i> the significant progress marked in its implementation the Contracting Parties and the Secretariat including MAP Components, building on the Ecosystem Approach governance structure;</p>	<p><b>GREEN</b> 5.1.2.a</p>								
<p>6. <i>Request</i> the Secretariat to prepare during the biennium 2024-2025, under the leadership of the Ecosystem Approach Coordination Group, a revised Ecosystem Approach Roadmap Policy, including IMAP enhancement, taking into account, but not limited to, the outcomes of the 2023 Mediterranean QSR; the findings of the independent evaluation of the implementation of the Ecosystem Approach Roadmap as set out in Annex III to the present Decision, and other related work of the Secretariat as per the CORMONs and Ecosystem Approach Coordination Group meeting conclusions, and giving due consideration to the most recent relevant developments at global and regional level, including the expected MFSD evaluation and revision, for consideration at COP 24 in Egypt;</p>	<p><b>ORANGE</b> 5.1.2.a,b</p>								
<p>7. <i>Take note of</i> the Terms of Reference for the CORMONs, CORESA and Online Working Groups and the flow of interaction between Ecosystem Approach and MAP governing bodies, as set out in Annex IV to the present Decision;</p>	<p><b>GREEN</b> 5.1.2.c</p>								
<p>8. <i>Call upon</i> Contracting Parties to continue strengthening the monitoring and assessment capacities of the national IMAP competent laboratories and authorities, with the view to delivering and reporting quality assured data and undertake reliable related assessments with support from the Secretariat and MAP Components, considering the need to ensure uniform</p>	<p><b>YELLOW</b> 6.2.1. 6.2.2. 6.3.1.</p>								

distribution of reported data across the entire region;									
9. <i>Encourage</i> the Secretariat, MAP Components and the Contracting Parties in enhancing synergies for the implementation of the Ecosystem Approach Policy and IMAP, with a particular focus on work undertaken at global level in the Regional Seas framework, Science Policy Interface and EU-MSFD;	<b>YELLOW</b> 5.1.2.d								
10. <i>Invite</i> the Secretariat (INFO/RAC) to further enhance the IMAP Info System by undertaking its upgrade into an advanced information system which efficiently supports assessments and ensures the validation of uploaded data, first technically and then scientifically, for potential use at various scales;	<b>YELLOW</b> 6.3.6.a								
11. <i>Invite</i> Contracting Parties and donor institutions to provide financial resources for the implementation of the Ecosystem Approach Roadmap with a particular focus on IMAP implementation at national level;	<b>YELLOW</b>								
12. <i>Encourage</i> the Contracting Parties to undertake the preparation and/or update of Programmes of Measures /National Action Plans to achieve Good Environmental Status, addressing to the extent possible in their entirety the 11 Ecological Objectives adopted under the Ecosystem Approach Roadmap in an integrated way, highlighting the obligation to streamline the requirements of the recent regulatory measures adopted by the Contracting Parties on pollution prevention and biodiversity conservation, promoting circular economy, resource efficiency, and sustainability of human activities, including emerging ones;	<b>YELLOW</b> 1.2.2. 5.1.2.								
13. <i>Request</i> the Secretariat to provide timely and effective technical and financial support in line with the adopted UNEP/MAP Programmes of Work and Budget for the implementation of the Ecosystem Approach Roadmap, IMAP and related Programmes of Measures/National Action Plans, as	<b>YELLOW</b> 1.2.2.a								

	well as 2023 MED QSR assessment findings;										
	14. <i>Call upon</i> the scientific community at national and regional levels to contribute to the scientific and IMAP based on their comparative advantages and scientific knowledge and competences, with a view to further strengthening the Science Policy Interface for IMAP implementation at all levels.	<b>YELLOW</b> 5.4.3.									
<b>Decision IG.26/4</b> <b>Amendments to Annexes II and III to the Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean</b>	1. <i>Adopt</i> the amendments to Annexes II and III to the Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean, as set out in the Annex to the present decision <sup>1</sup> ;	<b>GREEN</b> 2.3.2.									
	2. <i>Request</i> the Depositary to communicate without delay to all Contracting Parties the adopted amendments, pursuant to Article 23 (2) (iii) of the Barcelona Convention;	<b>YELLOW</b>									
	3. <i>Urge</i> the Contracting Parties to take, at national level, the necessary measures for the effective implementation of conservation of the species included in the annexes II and III to the SPA/DB Protocol;	<b>YELLOW</b> 2.3.3.									
	4. <i>Request</i> the secretariat (SPA/RAC) to assist the Contracting Parties, based on the available budget, in the implementation of the necessary conservation and management measures of the species included in the annexes II and III to the SPA/DB Protocol, including through resource mobilisation activities.	<b>YELLOW</b> 2.3.3.									
<b>Decision IG.26/5</b> <b>Specially Protected Areas (SPAs), Specially Protected Areas</b>	1. <i>Invite</i> the Secretariat, to conduct a mid-term assessment of the collective implementation of the Post-2020 Strategic Action Programme for the Conservation of Biodiversity and Sustainable Management of Natural Resources in the Mediterranean Region (Post-2020 SAPBIO) by 2025, and the Contracting Parties to review their National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans accordingly to ensure the	<b>YELLOW</b> 5.1.5.a									

<sup>1</sup> Reservation by Libya, Morocco and Tunisia. The European Union also raised a reservation for one species in Annex II (*Myliobatis Aquila*).





	7. The Karaburun Sazan National Marine Park (Albania) is to be subject to an ordinary review that was expected to take place in 2022 and that was exceptionally postponed to 2024 at the latest;	<b>YELLOW</b> <b>2.2.2.</b>								
	8. The following five Specially Protected Areas of Mediterranean Importance are to be subject to an ordinary review in 2024:  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- La Côte Bleue Marine Park (France),</li> <li>- Les Embiez Archipelago - Six Fours (France),</li> <li>- Capo Carbonara Marine Protected Area (Italy),</li> <li>- Penisola del Sinis - Isola di Mal di Ventre Marine Protected Area (Italy), and</li> <li>- Porto Cesareo Marine Protected Area (Italy);</li> </ul>	<b>YELLOW</b> <b>2.2.2.</b>								
	9. The following fourteen SPAMIs are to be subject to an ordinary review in 2025:  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Lara-Toxeftra Turtle Reserve (Cyprus),</li> <li>- Port-Cros National Park (France),</li> <li>- Cerbère-Banyuls Marine Nature Reserve (France),</li> <li>- Pelagos Sanctuary for the Conservation of Marine Mammals (France, Italy and Monaco),</li> <li>- Egadi Islands Marine Protected Area (Italy),</li> <li>- Landscape Park Strunjan (Slovenia),</li> <li>- Alboran Island (Spain),</li> <li>- Cabo de Gata-Nijar Natural Park (Spain),</li> <li>- Cap de Creus Natural Park (Spain),</li> <li>- Columbretes Islands (Spain),</li> <li>- Mar Menor and Oriental Mediterranean zone of the Region of Murcia coast (Spain),</li> <li>- Medes Islands (Spain),</li> <li>- Sea Bottom of the Levante of Almeria (Spain), and</li> </ul>	<b>ORANGE</b> <b>2.2.2.</b>								

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cetaceans Migration Corridor in the Mediterranean (Spain);</li> </ul>									
<p>10. The following five SPAMIs are to be subject to an extraordinary review in 2025 at the latest:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Palm Islands Nature Reserve (Lebanon),</li> <li>- Tyre Coast Nature Reserve (Lebanon),</li> <li>- La Galite Archipelago (Tunisia),</li> <li>- Kneiss Islands (Tunisia), and</li> <li>- Zembra and Zembretta National Park (Tunisia);</li> </ul>	<b>YELLOW</b> 2.2.2.								
<p>11. <i>Adopt</i> the Action Plan for the Conservation of Marine and Coastal Bird Species listed in Annex II to the Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean, set out in Annex III to this Decision;</p>	<b>GREEN</b> 2.3.2.e 2.3.3.								
<p>12. <i>Adopt</i> the Action Plan concerning Species Introductions and Invasive Species in the Mediterranean Sea, set out in Annex IV to this Decision;</p>	<b>GREEN</b> 2.4.1.								
<p>13. <i>Adopt</i> the Restoration Programme of <i>Pinna nobilis</i>, set out in Annex V to this Decision;</p>	<b>GREEN</b> 2.1.1.b								
<p>14. <i>Urge</i> the Contracting Parties to take the necessary measures for the effective implementation of the Action Plans and Programme and to report on their implementation, using the online Barcelona Convention Reporting System;</p>	<b>YELLOW</b>								
<p>15. <i>Request</i> the Secretariat (SPA/RAC), in coordination with other relevant regional and international organizations, where appropriate, to continue to provide technical support to the Contracting Parties for the effective implementation of the Action Plans and Programme, through technical cooperation and capacity-building activities, including resource mobilization activities;</p>	<b>YELLOW</b> 2.2.1.								

<p>16. <i>Request</i> the Secretariat (SPA/RAC) to update (i) the Action Plan for the Conservation of the Coralligenous and Other Calcareous Bio-concretions in the Mediterranean Sea, (ii) the Action Plan for the Conservation of Mediterranean Marine Turtles, (iii) the Action Plan for the Conservation of Cartilaginous Fishes (Chondrichthyans) in the Mediterranean Sea, and (iv) the Regional Strategy for the Conservation of Monk Seal in the Mediterranean Sea, and submit them for consideration of COP 24;</p>	<p><b>YELLOW</b> 2.3.1.a</p>										
<p>17. <i>Adopt</i> the Conditions and criteria for the award of the title of Regional Action Plan Partner, set out in Annex VI to this Decision;</p>	<p><b>GREEN</b></p>										
<p>18. <i>Request</i> the Secretariat (SPA/RAC) to draw up a list of the Regional Action Plans' Partners and update it for each meeting of SPA/BD Focal Points;</p>	<p><b>YELLOW</b></p>										
<p>19. <i>Adopt</i> the Conclusions and recommendations of the Multidisciplinary group of experts nominated by the Contracting Parties to define parameters allowing to use phytoplankton and zooplankton for relevant IMAP biodiversity indicators and elaborate the List of Reference of Pelagic Habitat Types in the Mediterranean Sea, set out in Annex VII to this Decision, so that they can be used, where necessary, as a basis for identifying reference pelagic habitats to be monitored and assessed at the national level under the Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme of the Mediterranean Sea and Coast and Related Assessment Criteria;</p>	<p><b>GREEN</b> 6.2.3. 6.2.4.</p>										
<p>20. <i>Request</i>, the Secretariat (SPA/RAC) to continue the work of the Multidisciplinary group of experts to advance in the development of the indicator using phytoplankton and zooplankton for relevant IMAP biodiversity indicators, based on the outcomes of relevant ongoing projects in the region and in</p>	<p><b>YELLOW</b> 6.2.3. 6.2.4.</p>										

	collaboration with relevant regional research centres.									
<b>Decision IG.26/6</b> <b>Regional Plan on Agriculture Management in the Framework of Article 15 of the Land-Based Sources and Activities Protocol (LBS Protocol)</b>	1. <i>Adopt</i> the Regional Plan on Agriculture Management in the framework of Article 15 of the LBS Protocol, set out in Appendix I to this decision;	<b>GREEN</b> 1.2.1.								
	2. <i>Take note of</i> the workplan with timetable for implementation of articles of the Regional Plan on Agriculture Management, set out in Appendix II to this decision;	<b>GREEN</b> 1.2.2.								
	3. <i>Call upon</i> the Contracting Parties to effectively implement the Regional Plan on Agriculture Management and to report to the Secretariat, accordingly, as provided for in its Article 8;	<b>YELLOW</b> 1.2.2								
	4. <i>Request</i> the Secretariat (MED POL) to provide, upon request and subject to availability of funds, the necessary assistance to the Contracting Parties for the implementation of the measures provided for in the Regional Plan on Agriculture Management;	<b>ORANGE</b> 1.2.2.d								
	5. <i>Urge</i> the Contracting Parties, intergovernmental organizations and donor agencies to contribute to the implementation of the Regional Plan on Agriculture Management based on their specific mandates.	<b>YELLOW</b> 1.2.2								
<b>Decision IG.26/7</b> <b>Regional Plan on Aquaculture Management in the framework of Article 15 of the Land-Based Sources and Activities</b>	1. <i>Adopt</i> the Regional Plan on Aquaculture Management in the framework of Article 15 of the LBS Protocol, set out in Appendix I to this decision;	<b>GREEN</b> 1.2.1.								
	2. <i>Take note of</i> the workplan with timetable for implementation of articles of the Regional Plan on Aquaculture Management, set out in Appendix II to this decision;	<b>GREEN</b> 1.2.2.								
	3. <i>Call upon</i> the Contracting Parties to effectively implement the Regional Plan on Aquaculture Management and to report to the Secretariat, accordingly, as provided for in its Article 8;	<b>YELLOW</b> 1.2.2								



<p><b>Decision IG.26/9</b> <b>Guidelines for the Dumping of Inert Uncontaminated Inorganic Geological Materials</b></p>	<p>1. <i>Adopt</i> the Updated Guidelines for the Dumping of Inert Uncontaminated Inorganic Geological Materials, set out in Annex I to the present Decision, which replace the 2005 Guidelines, herein after referred to as the “Guidelines”;</p>	<p><b>GREEN</b> <b>1.2.1.</b></p>								
	<p>2. <i>Urge</i> the Contracting Parties who have not yet accepted the amendments to the 1976 Protocol for the “Prevention and Elimination of Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by Dumping from Ships and Aircraft or Incineration at Sea” to do so;</p>	<p><b>YELLOW</b> <b>1.2.5.</b></p>								
	<p>3. <i>Take note</i> of Annex II to the present Decision summarizing different methodologies and techniques for monitoring purposes for Dumping of Inert Uncontaminated Inorganic Geological Materials;</p>	<p><b>GREEN</b> <b>1.2.2</b></p>								
	<p>4. <i>Call upon</i> the Contracting Parties to ensure the effective implementation, keeping in mind that the Guidelines shall be without prejudice to stricter provisions with respect to the dumping of inert uncontaminated inorganic geologic materials in the Mediterranean Sea Area contained in other existing national or international instruments and/or programmes;</p>	<p><b>YELLOW</b> <b>1.2.2.d</b> <b>1.2.5.</b></p>								
	<p>5. <i>Request</i> the Secretariat to facilitate the work of the Contracting Parties for the implementation of the Guidelines, by further strengthening cooperation and synergies in this area, where appropriate, with the London Convention and its Protocol, the European Union Marine Strategy Framework Directive, and other relevant instruments; and by sharing information with global and regional agreements and programmes on the achievements and progress of the MAP Barcelona Convention system in this area;</p>	<p><b>YELLOW</b> <b>1.2.5.b</b></p>								
<p><b>Decision IG.26/10<sup>2</sup></b></p>	<p>1. <i>Adopt</i> the Conceptual Framework for Implementing Marine Spatial Planning in the Mediterranean (hereinafter referred to as</p>	<p><b>GREEN</b> <b>4.1.4.</b></p>								

<sup>2</sup> Reservation by Egypt and Libya on the entire decision and its annex

<b>Conceptual Framework for Implementing Marine Spatial Planning in the Mediterranean</b>	4.1.4.) set out in Annex to the present Decision, as a guiding document for coordinated implementation of Marine Spatial Planning within the geographical scope of application of the Barcelona Convention;										
	2. <i>Invite</i> the Contracting Parties to implement the MSP Conceptual Framework and strengthen regional cooperation in line with the provisions of the ICZM Protocol and by using the online Marine Spatial Planning Workspace ( <a href="https://msp.iczmplatform.org/">https://msp.iczmplatform.org/</a> );	<b>YELLOW</b> 4.1.1. 4.2.5.b									
	3. <i>Request</i> the Secretariat (PAP/RAC) to establish a dedicated working group composed of experts of the Contracting Parties and all UNEP/MAP Components to lead the work on Marine Spatial Planning implementation in the Mediterranean and contribute towards streamlining Marine Spatial Planning in the revised Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development;	<b>ORANGE</b> 4.1.4. 4.2.5.c,d									
	4. <i>Encourage</i> the Contracting Parties to participate, contribute and benefit from other existing mechanisms and tools developed for the implementation of Marine Spatial Planning, including the initiatives for creating an open Community of Practice for exchange on Marine Spatial Planning, in order to align the approaches and promote UNEP/MAP's principles and objectives;	<b>YELLOW</b> 4.1.4. 4.2.5.									
	5. <i>Request</i> the Secretariat (PAP/RAC) to continue supporting the Contracting Parties in their effort to implement the ecosystem-based Marine Spatial Planning by providing capacity building and training, regularly updating the Marine Spatial Planning Workspace, and helping create national and local Communities of Practices for Marine Spatial Planning.	<b>YELLOW</b> 4.1.4. 4.2.5.b 6.3.15.d									
<b><u>Decision IG.26/11</u></b>	1. <i>Adopt</i> the regional harmonised procedures for the uniform implementation of the Ballast Water Management Convention in the Mediterranean Sea, hereinafter referred to as “the regional	<b>GREEN</b> 2.4.1.									





	external);									
	7. <i>Request also</i> the Secretariat (REMPEC) to communicate the regional BWM harmonised procedures to the International Maritime Organization (IMO) so that they may subsequently be circulated to IMO Member States for their information and action as appropriate.	<b>YELLOW</b> 2.4.1.f								
<b>Decision IG.26/12</b>  <b>Establishment of Regional Activity Center on Climate Change</b>	1. <i>Decide</i> to establish the MAP Regional Activity Centre on Climate Change (CC/RAC) as one of the Components of the MAP system, in accordance with the common operational principles for MAP Components (Decision IG.25/3 Annex 6);	<b>GREEN</b>								
	2. <i>Admit</i> the “ <i>Mediterranean Climate Change Research Center/Akdeniz İklim Değişikliği Araştırma Merkezi (AIDAM)</i> ” Institution at Caferağa, Gürbüz Türk Street. No:38, 34710 Kadıköy/İstanbul, a structure of the Ankara University National Center for the Sea and Maritime Law (DEHUKAM), to be the UNEP/MAP Regional Activity Centre on Climate Change;	<b>GREEN</b>								
	3. <i>Emphasize</i> that the establishment of the newly established CC/RAC will not bear any cost for the Mediterranean Trust Fund, and <i>Accepts with gratitude</i> the generous offer of Türkiye to cover all the establishment costs of the CC/RAC as its Host Country;	<b>GREEN</b>								
	4. <i>Request</i> the Secretariat to develop an independent mapping exercise including a fully-fledged assessment of the UNEP/MAP system and its different components with a view to define the mandate and integrate the newly established CC/RAC within the UNEP/MAP system, the results of which shall be submitted in a timely manner to all Contracting Parties for consideration of the MAP Focal Points Meeting of the biennium 2024-2025, then for decision at COP24 in order to operationalize the CC/RAC. Such assessment should be developed in a transparent and inclusive way, taking into	<b>YELLOW</b> 5.2.3.j								

	account all governance, legal, financial, and administrative aspects and should ensure full complementarity and synergies, for the benefit of the Mediterranean region and the implementation of global and regional commitments;											
	5. <i>Also request</i> the Secretariat to present to the Bureau for its consideration during 2024 the terms of reference for the above mentioned independent mapping exercise and its conclusions. On the basis of the outcome of the above mentioned exercise a draft proposal for a mandate for the CC/RAC shall be developed for decision by COP 24;	<b>YELLOW</b> 5.2.3.j										
<p><b><u>Decision IG.26/13</u></b></p> <p><b>Assessment Studies: Summary for Policymakers (SPM) of the MedECC Special Report on Climate and Environmental Coastal Risks</b></p>	1. <i>Endorse</i> the Summary for Policymakers (SPM) of the MedECC Special Report on climate and environmental coastal risks, as set out in the Annex to the present Decision;	<b>GREEN</b> 3.3.1. 7.1.1.										
	2. <i>Urge</i> the Contracting Parties and the Secretariat to make all possible efforts to overcome the knowledge gaps that are identified in the MedECC Special Report on climate and environmental coastal risks;	<b>YELLOW</b> 3.3.1. 7.1.1.										
	3. <i>Encourage</i> the Contracting Parties and partners to support the streamlining of the report findings at all levels of policy- and decision-making; and organise on a voluntary basis national or sub-regional presentation and meetings;	<b>ORANGE</b> 3.3.1. 7.1.1.										
	4. <i>Invite</i> the Contracting Parties to provide adequate and sustained support, to MedECC, and its science-policy-society interface within the UNEP/MAP – Barcelona Convention system, and encourage larger participation from all the Mediterranean and women scientists;	<b>ORANGE</b> 3.3.1. 7.1.1.										
	5. <i>Request</i> the Secretariat (Plan Bleu) to continue its institutional support to MedECC, hosting its secretariat and make efforts in collaboration with MAP Partner Institutions and	<b>YELLOW</b> 3.3.1.a 7.1.1.										

	Organizations and Contracting Parties to provide the necessary financial support to MedECC work and operation;									
	6. <i>Request</i> the Secretariat to further mainstream the results of the MedECC Special Report on climate and environmental coastal risks and other results stemming from MedECC into relevant UNEP/MAP work;	<b>YELLOW</b> 3.3.1.a 7.1.1.								
	7. <i>Request</i> the Secretariat and <i>invite</i> the Contracting Parties to properly disseminate the results of the MedECC Special Report on climate and environmental coastal risks and its SPM through an extensive dissemination and communication campaign in all relevant national and international fora beyond Barcelona Convention;	<b>YELLOW</b> 3.3.1.a 7.1.1.								
	8. <i>Request</i> the Secretariat to <i>invite</i> the Contracting Parties to participate in the consultation process of the two upcoming MedECC Special Reports on climate-water-energy-food-ecosystems nexus and on environmental change, conflict, and human migration;	<b>YELLOW</b> 3.3.1.a								
	9. <i>Request</i> the Secretariat and <i>invite</i> the Contracting Parties to make the efforts in cooperation with the other supporting institutions to ensure the adequate and sustained support to the preparation of the Second Mediterranean Assessment Report (MAR2) planned for 2024-2027.	<b>YELLOW</b> 3.3.1.b								
<b>Decision IG.26/14</b> <b>Programme of Work and Budget for 2024-2025</b>	1. <i>Request</i> the Executive Director of UNEP and the Coordinator of MAP to execute the Budget taking into consideration Decision IG.21/15 on the Financial Regulations and Rules and Procedures for the Contracting Parties, in particular the provisions under Annex II, Procedure 2, paragraph 4, which entrusts the responsibility to certify and authorize expenditures to UNEP in conformity with the Programme of Work and Budget Decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties;	<b>GREEN</b>								

<p>2. <i>Approve</i> the 2024-2025 Programme of Work and Budget set out in the Annex to this Decision including the Deliverables of the Programme of Work and Budget 2024 – 2025 set out in Appendix 1 to this Decision;</p>	<p><b>GREEN</b></p>								
<p>3. <i>Approve</i> the budget appropriations, as set out in Table 1. “Overview of income and commitments” of the Annex to this Decision; the income in the amount of EUR 13,296,144, composed of the Mediterranean Trust Fund in the amount of EUR 11,413,576, the European Union discretionary contribution in the amount of EUR 1,192,968 and the host country contribution of EUR 689,600 (USD 800,000); the use of the unutilized MTF positive balance up to the amount of EUR 3,289,504;</p>	<p><b>GREEN</b></p>								
<p>4. <i>Approve</i> the use of the budget appropriations as set out in Table 3 Summary of Activities and Administrative Costs by MAP Component;</p>	<p><b>GREEN</b></p>								
<p>5. <i>Approve</i> the 2024-2025 assessed ordinary contributions from Parties shown in Table 2 “Expected Ordinary Income” of the Annex to this Decision, which is based on the 2022-2024 scale of assessment adopted by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) at its 76<sup>th</sup> Session on 24 December 2021 in Resolution A/RES/76/238;</p>	<p><b>GREEN</b></p>								
<p>6. <i>Request</i> the Executive Director of UNEP, subject to the approval of the United Nations Environment Assembly, to extend the Mediterranean Trust Fund through 31 December 2025;</p>	<p><b>GREEN</b></p>								
<p>7. <i>Approve</i> the staffing of the Coordinating Unit including MED POL for 2024-2025 as indicated in Table 4a. “Details of Salaries and Operational and other Activities Costs of the Secretariat” in the Annex to this Decision provided that the increased staff costs are financed from the unutilized positive</p>	<p><b>GREEN</b></p>								

	balance of the MTF on exceptional basis for this biennium;									
	8. <i>Take note of the staffing of REMPEC for 2024–2025 as indicated in Table 4b, “Details of Salaries and Administrative Costs of REMPEC” in the Annex to this Decision;</i>	<b>GREEN</b>								
	9. <i>Take note of the external funding secured by the Secretariat and MAP Components in the amount of EUR 16,386,037 and external non-secured funding in the amount of EUR 10,295,644 for the implementation of the Programme of Work 2024-2025;</i>	<b>GREEN</b>								
	10. <i>Authorize the Coordinator in line with Decision IG.21/15 on the Financial Rules and Procedures for the Funds of the Barcelona Convention, Procedure 2, paragraph 6, to approve transfers within the same Programme and Component up to 20 per cent within the criteria: a. funds to be transferred are savings achieved upon committing funds for full delivery of activities planned in the approved Programme of Work, b. the transferred funds are strictly used for achieving the outcomes of the Programme of Work of concerned biennia in line with the outcomes of the 2022-2027 Mid-term Strategy; and c. such transfers are reported for information at the first meeting of the Bureau of the Contracting Parties following occurrence of such transfers;</i>	<b>ORANGE</b>								
	11. <i>Urge the Contracting Parties to strictly adhere to Procedure 4.2 of the Financial Rules and Procedures and pay their contributions to the MTF in the first quarter of each year to allow for the full and effective implementation of the Programme of Work;</i>	<b>YELLOW</b>								
	12. <i>Request the Secretariat to keep up to date information on the status of Contracting Parties’ contributions to the Mediterranean Trust Fund and to continue to post it in a publicly available place on the UNEP/MAP website and report, for information, to</i>	<b>YELLOW</b>								

<p>the Bureau of the Contracting Parties in their periodical meetings on the status of unutilized resources;</p>											
<p>13. <i>Urge</i> the Contracting Parties to adhere to nomination deadlines of their representatives in meetings of the MAP system and to avoid modifications and cancellation of their travel in order to minimize losses arising from the increase of airfare and cancellation fees and inefficiencies;</p>	<b>YELLOW</b>										
<p>14. <i>Urge</i> the Contracting Parties to consider increasing their voluntary contributions in cash and/or in kind in support of the implementation of the 2024-2025 Programme of Work and to support the resource mobilisation activities of the Secretariat;</p>	<b>YELLOW</b>										
<p>15. <i>Invite</i> other partners including industry to contribute adequate human and financial resources to meet the external funding requirements for priorities still unfunded under the 2024-2025 Programme of Work and Budget;</p>	<b>ORANGE</b>										
<p>16. <i>Request</i> the Secretariat to undertake with no budgetary implications, an internal evaluation in order to assess the coherence of the MAP system to the provisions of the “Common Operational Principles for MAP Components”, as adopted by COP 22 Decision IG. 25/3, Annex VI; the evaluation should consider the adequacy of all MAP Components with respect to the necessary functional and financial autonomy to fully and timely fulfill their regional mandate, as set by COP 16 Decision IG. 19/5 “Mandates of the Components of MAP”, in particular including possible proposals in relation to the structure of the MAP Components and their effects on the budget, including the use of the MTF to support the operational costs of all MAP Components, for consideration at COP 24;</p>	<b>YELLOW</b>										
<p>17. <i>Also request</i> the Secretariat, in consultation with the Bureau, to prepare for careful consideration by the MAP Focal Points</p>	<b>ORANGE</b>										

	<p>and, after further refinement, approval by COP 24 a result-based Programme of Work and Budget for 2026-2027, 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 and 2024-2025 Programmes of Work, providing information on the consultation process followed for its preparation, and in full alignment with the MTS taking into consideration the outcomes of the above evaluation as provided for in paragraph 16;</p>									
	<p>18. <i>Request</i> the Secretariat to develop a proposal for absorbing the whole remaining unutilized positive balance of the MTF, excluding the Working Capital Reserve, in the two following biennia (2026-2027 and 2028-2029) and maintain, as permanent principle of efficiency, the objective of avoiding unutilized positive balance of the MTF and to present this proposal for consideration at COP 24.</p>	<p><b>ORANGE</b></p>								