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## **Introduction**

1. The meeting of the Bureau of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution and its Protocols was held at the Hotel Metropole in Monaco on 17 and 18 October 2002.

## **Participation**

2. The meeting was chaired by H.E. Mr. Bernard Fautrier, Minister Plenipotentiary of Monaco responsible for international cooperation for the environment and development. The meeting was attended by the following members of the Bureau: Mr. Mohammed Si Youcef, Director General of the Environment, Ministry of the Environment, (Algeria), Mrs. Fatima Hadzibegic, Assistant to the Minister, Ministry of Planning and Environment (Bosnia and Herzegovina); Mr. Alexandre Lascaratos, Official in charge of liaison with the MAP (Greece); Mrs. Reem Abed Rabboh, Director of the Department of Water Resources Management, Ministry of State for Environmental Affairs (Syrian Arab Republic); and Mr. Mitja Bricelj, Adviser to the Government, Ministry of the Environment and Planning (Slovenia). H.E. Mr. Fautrier was accompanied by Mr. Patrick Van Klaveren, Technical Adviser, Department of Foreign Relations, and Mrs. Reem Abed Rabboh was accompanied by Mr. Ozainah Al-Jundi, Official in the Ministry of State for Environmental Affairs.

3. Mr. Lucien Chabason, MAP Coordinator, and Mr. Humberto Da Cruz, MAP Programme Administrator, together with Mr. Ivica Trumbić, Director of PAP/RAC, represented the Secretariat of the Mediterranean Action Plan.

4. The full list of participants is attached as Annex I to this report.

5. The summary of decisions taken at the meeting is attached as Annex II to this report.

### **Agenda item 1 - Opening of the meeting**

6. H.E. Mr. Bernard Fautrier, President of the Bureau, welcomed participants to Monaco. Since the Bureau's previous meeting, held in Damascus (Syrian Arab Republic) in March 2002, many events had taken place, culminating with the Johannesburg Summit. They had opened up new perspectives that were reflected in the heavy agenda and, as agreed, it had been drawn up in Arabic, English and French, as had the other working documents for the meeting.

7. Mr. Lucien Chabason, MAP Coordinator, thanked the President for his words of welcome and for the excellent organization and warm hospitality once again shown to the MAP by the Principality of Monaco. He briefly reviewed the main items on the agenda before the meeting, emphasizing that the Action Plan's activities had been particularly intensive over the previous months and that many of them were related to the Johannesburg Summit.

8. In their statements, the members of the Bureau joined the Coordinator in expressing their gratitude to the Monegasque Government for the warmth of its welcome and its organization.

### **Agenda item 2: Adoption of the provisional agenda and organization of work**

9. The meeting adopted the agenda prepared by the Secretariat and circulated under the symbol UNEP/BUR/59/1. The annotated agenda was circulated as document UNEP/BUR/59/2.

**Agenda item 3: Progress report by the Secretariat on activities carried out since the last Bureau Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention (Damascus, 18 and 19 March 2002)**

10. The Coordinator introduced the Progress Report circulated under the symbol UNEP/BUR/59/3, commencing its consideration section-by-section and drawing particular attention to the recommendations prepared for the Bureau by the Secretariat, which appeared at the end of each section and could possibly serve as a basis for the Bureau's decisions.

**A COORDINATION**

**(a) Legal matters**

- *Documents presenting the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols*

11. The Coordinator noted that, pursuant to a decision taken by the Bureau at its last meeting in Damascus, the Secretariat had prepared a document in Arabic to allow a comparison between the old and new texts of the Convention and Protocols and thus facilitate the ratification process in Arabic-speaking countries. In addition, a new updated document containing all the MAP's new legal instruments - including the "prevention and emergency situations" Protocol adopted in Malta in January 2002 - had recently been published in English and was available to participants. The Arabic, French and Spanish texts were being prepared. It was hoped that the document would shortly be published in official form when those new instruments entered into force.

- *Status of ratification*

12. Mr. Humberto Da Cruz, MAP Programme Officer, presented an update on the status of signature and ratification of the Convention and Protocols (UNEP/BUR/59/Inf.6), which the depositary State (Spain) had recently transmitted to the Secretariat. There appeared to be gaps in the document due to misunderstandings or transmission errors, for example, for the past year Cyprus had confirmed that it had deposited its instruments of ratification of the three Protocols, but they were not mentioned by the depositary State.

13. The President indicated that the new Protocol on "prevention and emergency situations", adopted in January 2002, was not mentioned in the status of signature and ratification, even though Monaco had ratified the Protocol in April 2002 and had received an acknowledgement of receipt from the depositary State. Like his predecessors, as President of the Bureau, he had sent letters urging countries to speed up the ratification process. To date, ten Parties - including the EC - had ratified the amendments to the Convention so ten had still not done so. The MAP National Focal Points should be asked to communicate without delay to the depositary State ratifications in their respective countries. He called on his colleagues in the Bureau to assess the situation in their respective countries.

14. Mr. Lascaratos, Vice-President representing Greece, indicated that on 29 May 2002 his country had ratified the amendments to the Barcelona Convention and the "land-based sources" Protocol. The depositary State had not yet been informed for administrative reasons, but that would be done as soon as possible.

15. Mr. Si Youcef, Vice-President representing Algeria, said that the Algerian Minister, H.E. Mr. Cherif Rashmani, present in Beijing for the GEF General Assembly, conveyed his apologies for being unable to attend the meeting. Algeria still had some minor administrative problems to be resolved as regards its ratification process because it had not yet received the translation of all the instruments in Arabic.

16. Mr. Van Klaveren (Monaco) indicated that, as could be seen from the note on the updated status of signature and ratification, there was a tendency to dissociate the text of the SPA and Biodiversity Protocol from its annexes, which had been the subject of a conference of plenipotentiaries and separate adoption but nonetheless formed part of a legal whole which the countries should ratify *in toto*. That was an important point that should be brought to the attention of the Parties and the depositary State. In that connection, the Coordinator pointed out that failure to ratify the annexes would make ratification of the Protocol itself meaningless.

17. Mr. Bricelj, Vice-President representing Slovenia, said that the Slovenian Government had transmitted the revised or new texts of all the Barcelona legal instruments to Parliament for adoption and it was envisaged that they would be ratified in the course of the parliamentary session due to open the following week.

18. Mrs. Rabboh, Vice-President representing the Syrian Arab Republic, indicated that her country was on the point of finalizing the ratification process, which had been delayed due to the fact that there was no integral Arabic text of the instruments. The revised Barcelona Convention would be adopted before the end of 2002. She enquired whether a member State could ratify one or other of the Protocols before ratifying the revised main Convention.

19. The Coordinator, in reply, said that the new instruments had been adopted on the basis of the 1976 Convention, so each country was free to ratify them in the order it wished. Without attempting to suggest any priority of course, he underlined the urgent need to ratify the "land-based sources" Protocol because the entire MED POL system, including the Strategic Action Programme, was based on its new provisions and as long as they had not entered into force the legal situation was difficult.

20. Mrs. Hadzibegic, Rapporteur representing Bosnia and Herzegovina, said that her country's Environment Committee had conveyed its favourable opinion on ratification to the Government, but for the moment she was not in a position to give any details concerning the progress being made or the date of ratification.

21. Following the exchange of views, the Coordinator noted that things were moving and in view of the information provided by Greece and Slovenia and the details given by Cyprus there was perhaps hope that the instruments would soon enter into force. There should soon be 13 ratifications of the Convention, and the ratifications by the Syrian Arab Republic, Algeria and Bosnia and Herzegovina could tip the scales in favour of entry into force. The President added that in the course of his visits to Mediterranean countries that had not yet ratified he would encourage them to do so without delay.

## DECISION

- **The Bureau decided that its President would address a letter to the MAP National Focal Points reminding them that when the ratification process had been completed in their respective countries, they are requested to notify the depositary State immediately so that the latter may prepare an updated status of ratification of the Convention and its Protocols.**
- **With respect to the SPA and Biodiversity Protocol, the Bureau also recalled that its ratification concerned both the Protocol and its Annexes, which constitute one single document. The President would send a letter on the subject to the Contracting Parties and in particular to the depositary State.**

- *Reporting system*

22. Mr. Da Cruz reported on the meeting held in May 2002 by five of the seven countries taking part in the voluntary trial phase. Spain had completed three quarters of its report, Monaco had commenced its report, Turkey and Tunisia had planned meetings of experts in November and December 2002 in order to establish their reports; Algeria, Croatia and the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya were at the preparatory stage. It was planned to hold a second technical meeting in Madrid at the beginning of December 2002 and it was expected that the final report by the seven countries would be ready for the Bureau's next meeting.

23. The Vice-President representing Greece referred to the MEDERMIS programme (Mediterranean Environmental Reporting, Monitoring and Information System). The programme involved six countries, including Tunisia, which was given support for its reporting system.

24. The Coordinator said that, in the light of the experience gained during the exercise, countries were wondering whether certain provisions in the formats used for the various reports were realistic and the Secretariat was counting on full and active participation in the next meeting so that the necessary adjustments could be made. The President added that for small countries such as Monaco the multiplicity of environmental conventions meant that it was essential to put in place a standardized system that did not require a complex administrative process.

## DECISION

**The Bureau stresses the importance of the trial exercise carried out by several countries on a voluntary basis enabling a reporting system to be set up at MAP, with a view to the enforcement of the new and amended MAP legal instruments in the near future. Such a system should be rational and consistent with that under other regional or international environmental conventions.**

- *Liability and compensation for damages*

25. The Coordinator introduced the item covered in Annex II to the Secretariat's Progress Report, which had been prepared by a legal consultant, Professor Tullio Scovazzi, taking into account recent international developments. The question of whether there was room for such a legal instrument within the Barcelona system had long been the subject of discussion within the MAP. Mr. Scovazzi's reply had been reasonably positive and the convening of a second meeting (following that held at Brijuni in September 1997) was recommended in order to inform the Parties of the options available.

26. The President noted that the subject was a complex one and had already been the subject of several initiatives (UN/ECE, draft European Directive, etc.). It was necessary to be prudent and not expect to reach a conclusion rapidly, but it was the Bureau's duty to put the question on the table and seek information. A meeting of experts participating on an *ad personam* basis appeared to him to be the best solution in order to prepare recommendations to be put before the Bureau and subsequently the Contracting Parties.

27. The Coordinator confirmed that it was the Secretariat's intention to organize a meeting of four or five Mediterranean experts, selected for their personal competence and not as government experts. As Slovenia had suggested, an expert from the European Community would also be invited.

## DECISION

**The Bureau took note of the review of the liability and compensation issue contained in Annex II to the Progress Report. It invited the Secretariat to convene a restricted**

**group of experts which, after detailed analysis, would report to the next Bureau meeting on the advisability and feasibility of setting up a Mediterranean legal instrument on the subject.**

- *MAP support to countries on legal matters*

28. The Secretariat reported on the training course for national officials on legal and management instruments for coastal protection (Mallorca, June 2002) and the meeting of experts designated by the Syrian Government (Damascus, July 2002). The Libyan Arab Jamahiriya had requested the holding of a similar course.

29. In this connection, the President indicated that UNITAR organized training workshops on environmental law (for example, a seminar attended by 35 experts from the Maghreb had been held in Tunis in October 2002). MAP made a contribution to some of these workshops and one of its tasks was to enhance the legal knowledge of environmental officials.

- *Monitoring system for the effective implementation of MAP legal instruments*

30. Mr. Da Cruz introduced the proposed monitoring system described in Annex III to the Progress Report and drawn up pursuant to a decision taken by the Bureau's last meeting, it being understood that the final decision lay with the Contracting Parties. The proposal was based on a number of mechanisms set up under other conventions (for example, the Bern Convention) for dealing with cases in which lacunae in implementing the instruments under the convention had been noted in certain countries.

31. The President considered that it was an extremely positive proposal, but it should be the subject of careful examination. The words "monitoring" and "follow up" should be interpreted in the voluntary, non-binding sense because the Contracting Parties might raise legal objections to the establishment of a mechanism that was not directly provided in the Convention.

32. The delegate of Monaco, which was chairing the Contracting Parties to the Bern Convention, provided some details concerning the mechanism gradually set up under the Convention, which allowed cases to be taken up following complaints by countries, NGOs or individuals, to examine them and in most cases to reach an amicable solution. It was a mechanism for dialogue in fact that was neither institutionalised nor binding but through which the Bern Convention had enhanced its credibility and effectiveness.

33. Algeria and Slovenia fully supported the Secretariat's proposal and the President considered that, in the light of the explanations given on the Bern Convention, it would appear to be an excellent precedent and could be used as the basis for a proposal to be drawn up by the Secretariat and submitted to the next meeting of the Bureau with a view to making a recommendation to the Contracting Parties, subject to taking legal advice to ensure that such a procedure would not be contrary to any provision in the Barcelona Convention or its Protocols. The Coordinator confirmed that it was the Secretariat's intention that the technical committee mentioned should not have a legal role and would not take over any of the tasks incumbent upon the bodies under the Barcelona Convention such as the meetings of the Contracting Parties or the Bureau.

## **DECISION**

**On the basis of the proposals contained in Annex III to the Secretariat's Progress Report, the Bureau requested the Secretariat to submit to its next meeting a proposal on the composition and working method of the proposed technical committee, whose**

**task would be to examine the problems related to the implementation of MAP legal instruments. This should be done on a non-jurisdictional basis.**

**The final decision would lie with the next meeting of the Contracting Parties.**

- *Relations with the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia*

34. The Coordinator reported on the informal contacts he had had pursuant to the recommendation made by the Bureau at its last meeting. The institutional situation in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia was changing rapidly following the signature of an agreement under the auspices of the European Union providing for the creation of a Union of Serbia and Montenegro. Before making any official contacts, it would be necessary to await the finalization of the country's new Constitution and the allocation of competence set out therein

**(b) Institutional matters**

- *Evaluation of MAP: proposal for a method of work*

35. The Secretariat introduced the relevant section of the Progress Report. At their last meeting, the Contracting Parties had requested an overall evaluation of the MAP, leaving the Bureau to select the method and the timetable. The objective was to hold a wide-ranging debate at the next meeting of the Contracting Parties, based on the document to be elaborated, concerning the MAP structure – including the MCSD -its adaptation to the new international context, in particular the Johannesburg Action Plan and the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership, and the countries' needs. The Bureau was therefore called on to oversee the exercise, ensuring that it was primarily prospective in nature.

36. The representative of Greece emphasized the need to discuss the MCSD and the relationship with the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership, but he did not share the view apparently held by the Secretariat that the MAP structure should be revised. Evaluations of the RACs had been conducted or were under way, and Greece had made some suggestions to enhance their effectiveness, but it was important not to go to the opposite extreme and undertake an ongoing revision of all the MAP components.

37. The President and the representative of Algeria considered that the examination should not be a simple retrospective review and, in the light of its results, nothing would prevent an in-depth review of the activities of the Centres and their possible refocusing. The representative of Slovenia expressed the view that the MAP should be evaluated and placed in the broader context of various European directives (framework directive on water, coastal management, etc.), other regional conventions such as those on the Danube and the Black Sea, and its activities should be harmonized so as to avoid duplication, for example, by utilizing the work carried out by expert groups on river basins under the Danube Convention.

38. The Coordinator explained that the reason why he had referred to the MAP's "structure" was that new initiatives were constantly being proposed: the Turkish proposal on a "tourism" component, redefinition of the 100 historic sites, task force on the future of the MCSD, which had recently held its first meeting in Barcelona, and the need to revise the mandates of the BP and PAP/RACs so as to define their respective areas of competence. Past experience proved that when things were left vague, problems arose. The strong demand from countries also had to receive a response. MAP's projects in support of countries were becoming more important: growing demand for coastal area management programmes, preparation of emergency plans with REMPEC, FEM/MED POL project, MEDA SPA/RAC project in support of SPAMIs, etc. The MAP carried out those projects with very

limited resources so there was often no follow-up. The overall evaluation requested should therefore be of ambitious scope; should MAP not only be a cooperation framework but also an operational entity providing technical assistance? If the answer was yes, the question of expertise in the RACs and funding should be raised.

39. The representative of the Syrian Arab Republic underlined the need for technical assistance to countries, indicating that in her country an evaluation of the impact of the Syrian coastal area management programme, launched a decade previously, was currently under way. The impact had been somewhat limited, with the exception of pre-investment studies. Pilot projects should therefore be set up to show that the MAP was really able to assist countries.

40. The representative of Slovenia highlighted the subregional context. For two years, there had been an "Adriatic Sea/Ionian Sea initiative" and Slovenia had urged the MAP to establish a direct link with it. Germany played a leading role for the Danube and the MAP could follow that example for the subregions within its area of competence. The delegation of Monaco also recalled that the RAMOGE Agreement among Monaco, France and Italy was directly involved in MED POL activities such as the preparation of the trends in emissions/discharge of pollutants for the purpose of the SAP.

41. Lastly, the representative of Greece turned to an issue which he believed to be crucial, namely, funding in order to provide more MAP technical support in the future. In addition to contributions by countries to the Trust Fund, which would necessarily remain limited, there were other possible sources and members of the OCDE's Development Assistance Committee (DAC), for example, had to provide support in the environmental sphere *inter alia*.

42. The Bureau then held an exchange of views on the composition of the "think tank" to be responsible for the evaluation and rapidly reached agreement on its working methods and the broad outline of its mandate of reference, as reflected in the decision below:

## **DECISION**

**The Bureau requested the Secretariat to set up as soon as possible a "think tank" to prepare the global assessment of the MAP requested by the Contracting Parties at their meeting in Monaco.**

**The group would be composed as follows:**

- **The President of the Bureau of the Contracting Parties (Monaco);**
- **A representative of a Mediterranean country member of the EU (Greece);**
- **A representative of a southern or eastern Mediterranean country (Syrian Arab Republic);**
- **A representative of a Mediterranean country included in the next enlargement of the EU (Slovenia); and**
- **Two experts to be appointed by the Secretariat.**

**The group could consult intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and would focus its evaluation on the following:**

- **A prospective approach;**
- **Adjustment of the MAP, in particular of the MCSD, to the post-Johannesburg context, including in its considerations the task force deliberations on the future of the MCSD;**
- **The MAP's integration into the European context (Euro-Med Partnership, EU legislation, etc.)**

- **Criteria for more active participation by the MAP in technical assistance activities provided to countries.**

**An interim progress report would be submitted to the Bureau at its next meeting for subsequent transmission to the meeting of the Contracting Parties.**

**(c) Cooperation**

- *Second Euro-Mediterranean Conference on the Environment*

43. The President and the Coordinator reported on the Euro-Mediterranean Conference of Ministers for the Environment, held at Athens in July 2001. Even though, due to financial regulations, it had not been possible to obtain direct aid from the Partnership for regional cooperation projects, significant political progress had been made on cooperation between the MAP and the Partnership. Starting from almost zero, in the Athens Declaration it had been possible to arrive at formal recognition of the role of the MAP and the MCSD, particularly in the preparation of a Mediterranean strategy for sustainable development. There was a clearly stated desire for coordination, harmonization and complementarity between the two programmes in respect of aid to the region, as well as recommendations on mutual and regular exchanges of information.

44. All speakers welcomed those results, adding that they still had to be put into practice by focusing on contacts between MAP officials and the Commission. In particular, one element that should be exploited was the section of the Athens Declaration calling on those of the 12 partners that so wished to implement the instruments and recommendations of the Barcelona Convention by requesting MEDA funds for MAP projects. Lastly, one delegate recalled that the last meeting of the Bureau had emphasized that all countries bordering the Adriatic should be associated in the Partnership.

**DECISION**

**The Bureau welcomed the Athens Ministerial Declaration (July 2002), which indicated a real desire for increased cooperation between the Euro-Med Partnership and the MAP and recognized *inter alia* the role of the MAP and the MCSD in the formulation of a Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development**

**The Secretariat was requested to make all the necessary contacts with the European Commission so that the determination expressed in the Declaration was translated into practical action.**

**The President of the Bureau would also send a letter to this effect to the authorities of the Commission.**

- *Johannesburg Summit*

45. The Coordinator reported on the MAP's contribution to the preparatory meetings for the Summit, the information activities that took place during the meeting and the support for the Mediterranean event organized by MIO-ESCDE, in the presence of HSH Prince Albert of Monaco and eight Mediterranean ministers. The event had received a great deal of attention and the NGO network should be warmly congratulated. Mr. Chabason pointed out that the Johannesburg Action Plan constituted a platform – albeit a minimal one – that merited more than the critical comments it had aroused, and nothing prevented more demanding and ambitious activities at the regional level. It was a totally new concept of sustainable development that had emerged, focusing on the social aspects and public-private partnerships. The question that would face the MAP would be whether it should take into account those new elements and, if so, with what resources?

46. For several participants, as far as the MAP was concerned, the new prospects opened up at Johannesburg implied a restructuring of the composition, mandate, role and working methods of the MCSD, which for several years had been criticized by some Contracting Parties. In view of the new aspects underlined at the Summit, socio-economic actors would have to be more closely involved. One member of the Bureau wondered whether, in that respect, the task force set up prior to the Summit was the most appropriate structure for conducting such a study: it was not up to the MCSD to undertake its own reform but to the Contracting Parties as a whole.

47. The President recalled that the task force was in no way a decision-making body but a group entrusted at the most with putting forward ideas and proposals on the future of the MCSD, necessarily taking into account the post-Johannesburg context, which could be utilized by the think tank just set up by the Bureau for the overall evaluation of the MAP. In any event, a preliminary sound proposal on reform of the MCSD would have to be submitted to the Contracting Parties at their meeting in Catania.

48. Mr. Chabason informed the Bureau that the President of the French Republic, Mr Jacques Chirac, had announced that France intended to organize a conference of experts on sustainable development in the Mediterranean in the post-Johannesburg context; the MAP, in particular, the Blue Plan on the basis of its report on environment and development, had been invited to take part and make an active contribution. It was a French initiative and should take place in Paris in January 2004, after the Contracting Parties' meeting in Catania in November 2003.

## **DECISION**

**The President would send a letter to the MIO-ECSDE NGO network to thank it for having organized the Mediterranean event during the Johannesburg Summit, which had been highly successful.**

### **(d) MAP partners**

- *Review of the list of partners*

49. Mr. Da Cruz introduced Annex IV to the Progress Report on the revision of the list of MAP partners, and presented slides to illustrate the common and additional criteria adopted for the new classification. The new list established on that basis had been approved. The Coordinator, noting that there was a lack of socio-economic partners, said that following a recommendation by the MCSD's Steering Committee, the Secretariat was endeavouring to adopt a pro-active approach so as to encourage dynamic organizations. The representative of Algeria agreed with the new list, but cautioned that there was under-representation of certain regions in some parts.

## **DECISION**

**The Bureau considered and approved the new list of MAP partners, with the common and additional criteria adopted for their inclusion or maintenance on the list. As a result, it also approved the removal from the list of 15 organizations that did not meet the criteria.**

### **(e) Financial and personnel matters**

50. The Coordinator introduced the section of the Progress Report on financial matters. The Bureau had agreed that the positive balance remaining from the meeting of

plenipotentiaries held in Malta (January 2002) could be used to cover the increased cost of meetings of the Bureau. The solution was an exception and provisional, however, and as those costs would become integral costs, the next biennial budget would have to take the increase into account. All the members of the Bureau also endorsed the improvements proposed to ensure timely payment of contributions.

51. Regarding use of the Euro, Mr. Chabason informed the Bureau of an exchange of letters among the MED Unit, UNON/UNEP in Nairobi, and the United Nations Secretariat in New York. The MAP had requested the United Nations to open an account in Euros within the Trust Fund in parallel with the account in dollars, using the latter solely for the payment of part of the salaries of MAP professional staff, in conformity with their terms of engagement.

52. The President and other members of the Bureau took note of the action being taken and unanimously reaffirmed the strong demand by the Contracting Parties regarding use of the Euro for the MAP's activities and budget because in countries of the North Mediterranean, but also in many countries in the South and East Mediterranean, it had become the customary unit of account.

53. Turning to personnel matters, the President said that the Coordinator's term of office came to an end on 31 March 2003. His departure at such a juncture would indisputably create a void that would be prejudicial and was of concern not only to the Bureau but to the MAP as whole because Mr. Chabason alone could ensure the continuity needed for the preparation and proper conduct of the crucial rendezvous of the Contracting Parties' meeting in Catania in November 2003. He had therefore contacted Mr. Töpfer, Executive Director of UNEP, requesting an extension of the Coordinator's term of office. Although Mr. Töpfer had been most amenable, he had replied that, according to United Nations rules, a maximum extension of six months was possible, which would mean the end of September 2003 and would therefore not cover the Catania meeting. The President therefore asked the Bureau to authorize him to contact Mr. Töpfer once more to see whether a further extension for another two months could be granted.

54. The representative of Greece read out a letter addressed to Mr. Töpfer by the Deputy Minister for the Environment of Greece, Mrs. Zissis, on 25 September 2002 making the same request and emphasizing that Greece, which would assume the presidency of the European Union during the first half of 2003, wished to see the continuity of the MAP's work until the closure of the next ordinary meeting for the implementation of sustainable development in the region. The other members of the Bureau also fully supported the request by the Greek Minister and the President and asked the latter to renew the request on the Bureau's behalf.

55. Members of the Bureau expressed their surprise at the announcement – which seemed somewhat hasty - of the job vacancy notice for the office of Coordinator which had recently been published by UNEP. Thus, setting 14 November 2002 as the time limit for submitting applications. The meeting considered that the selection of candidates and the definitive appointment of the person who would guide the MAP in years to come required that the Bureau be informed, associated or consulted as soon as the time limit for applications had closed so that the procedure was totally transparent. In view of the brevity of the period remaining for circulation of the job vacancy notice and the submission of applications, the President was requested to write without delay to his counterpart Mediterranean Ministers for the Environment to ask them to seek suitable candidates in their respective countries.

56. The Coordinator announced that, at his own request, Mr. Humberto Da Cruz, Programme Administrator, would be leaving the Secretariat. The submission of applications for this post had been closed since 22 July 2002 and three candidates had been selected. On behalf of the MAP, Mr. Chabason thanked Mr. Da Cruz for his valuable assistance and in

particular for the trust he had built up with NGOs. The Bureau joined the Coordinator in thanking Mr. Da Cruz.

## **DECISIONS**

### **A. Financial matters**

#### ***Payment of contributions***

The Bureau decided to envisage the following improvements to procedures for the payment of contributions:

- **Earlier invoicing**  
After receiving the report of the meeting of Contracting Parties (which contains the approved budget), the BFMS should notify countries by December at the latest (in other words, during the month following the Contracting Parties' meeting) and in October-November of the first year of the biennium for contributions relating to the second financial year.
- **Mechanism within countries for more rapid payment of contributions**  
The Parties should take all necessary steps to ensure that their contributions are paid during the first quarter of the year and, at the latest, by the end of the first half of the year concerned.
- **Stricter reminders**  
Where needed, the MED Unit should systematically send reminders to each National Focal Point every two months.

#### ***Use of the Euro***

The Bureau drew attention to the recommendation made by the last meeting of the Contracting Parties to the effect that in future the Euro would be the unit of currency used within the MAP.

Having taken note of the contacts made by the Coordinating Unit and the status of the discussions with the relevant United Nations services, the Bureau once more underlined the need to abide strictly by decisions by the Parties.

Consequently, the next budget, notifications of contributions and the majority of the MAP's financial operations would be in Euros.

An account in Euros should be opened within the Trust Fund so as to facilitate transactions.

### **B. Personnel matters**

- The Bureau unanimously expressed the wish that the term of office of the present Coordinator of the MAP be extended until December 2003 to allow him to ensure the essential continuity in the preparation and conduct of the next meeting of the Contracting Parties (November 2003).
- The President was requested to contact the Executive Director of UNEP once more regarding the matter, taking into account the letter already sent by the Greek authorities in that regard.
- The Bureau took note of the job vacancy notice concerning the post of Coordinator and expressed the desire to be associated with the selection of candidates, which should be transparent.

**The President would address a letter to this effect to UNEP and another letter to all Mediterranean Ministers for the Environment urging them to seek and propose suitable candidates from their countries for the post.**

**(f) Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development**

57. The Secretariat introduced the relevant sections of the Progress Report. It drew attention in particular to the status of preparation of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development. The representative of the Syrian Arab Republic enquired what was the situation regarding the Turkish proposal on a regional activity centre for sustainable tourism, for which the Bureau had requested a feasibility study. The Secretariat replied that the study had been submitted to the MCSD meeting in Antalya, but it had been decided to consider a programme of limited duration, to be implemented by Turkey under the auspices of the MAP, without any financial implications for the latter. The representative of Greece said that at the last biannual meeting of the Greek-Turkish Bilateral Committee in Istanbul the Turkish delegation had requested Greece's assistance in implementing the tourism programme. In any event, further information from Turkey would be needed before the issue could be reconsidered by the Bureau.

**(g) MAP Meetings**

58. The Secretariat presented the updated list of MAP meetings for the period 2002 – 2003.

**B. MAP COMPONENTS**

**(h) Prevention and control of pollution**

- *SAP activities*

59. In introducing the sections of the Progress Report on MED POL and the Strategic Action Programme (SAP), the Coordinator underscored the considerable efforts made by MED POL to mobilize all Mediterranean countries regarding their national pollution monitoring programmes. His remarks also applied to the estimates of the national trends in emissions/discharge of pollutants for 2003, which were the first step towards establishing national diagnostic analyses (NDA) and national action plans (NAP) in order to achieve pollution reductions within the SAP framework. The Bureau endorsed the Secretariat's recommendation and adopted the following decision:

**DECISION**

**The Bureau decided to request countries urgently to commence, in cooperation with the Secretariat, the process for establishing their national baseline for emissions/discharge of pollutants for 2003, which should be used as the basis for gradually achieving the reductions in pollution envisaged in the SAP.**

60. With regard to maritime pollution, the Coordinator drew the Bureau's attention to the preparation of an unusual – even unique – event that would mark an important milestone in the MAP's existence in 2003: a regional conference on the implementation of MARPOL 73/78 in the Mediterranean region. It would be the first time that the situation had been assessed at the regional level. The conference would be organized with the assistance of the Greek Ministry of the Merchant Marine, in cooperation with REMPEC; the Secretary General of the IMO would also attend. The conference would bring together representatives of countries, professional associations and pleasure boating groups, and would be held in Athens in March 2003.

**(i) Coastal area management programme**

61. The President called on the Director of PAP/RAC to inform the Bureau of the situation of CAMP projects on the basis of previous documents and feasibility studies so as to analyse the problems, the obstacles encountered and the lessons learned. The information was given following a request by the Bureau at its last meeting held in Damascus in March 2002.

62. Mr. Ivica Trumbić, Director of PAP/RAC, described the background to CAMP projects since the programme had begun in 1989. He explained the major principles underpinning their implementation, based essentially upon the integrated management of coastal zones and the mobilization of the expertise of all MAP components in the field. He briefly outlined the eight projects completed (Albanian coast, Kastela bay, Rhodes, Syrian coast, Izmir bay, Fuka-Matrouh, Sfax, and the Israeli coast). The Malta CAMP was entering the final phase, the Lebanese and Algerian CAMPs were just starting. Feasibility studies had been completed for a Slovenian CAMP and for a Cypriot CAMP and a Moroccan CAMP was envisaged. Lastly, Spain had requested a CAMP for the "Mar Menor" in the Murcia region.

63. Mr. Trumbić then analysed the major shortcomings in implementation noted over the years, indicating that they had been the subject of several meetings and workshops. The main weakness had been the disproportion between the legitimate scope of the projects and the amount of the resources allocated to them. As a result, there was often no follow-up, which meant that over time the benefits of the action undertaken were lost. The time taken to implement projects should therefore be shortened and the private sector, NGOs and the public should be more closely involved. The coordination and integration of the activities carried out by MAP components should be improved, capacity built up, and on-site training given, and the synergy with other actors such as METAP and the EC should be strengthened. Lastly, a new generation of CAMPs was being examined; they would combine a national CAMP, a subregional CAMP and a cross-border CAMP so as to improve the territorial scope of the action.

64. After having thanked Mr. Trumbić for his presentation, the members of the Bureau held a lively discussion on the subject of CAMPs. Although they recognized that the programmes were unquestionably a success, they also considered that, at the same time, the success left countries unsatisfied due to the lack of an effective follow-up that would have yielded practical results in the zones concerned. Ultimately, it would appear that the excellent studies on coastal area management remained filed away in a drawer and that meant a waste of money and expertise. Furthermore, the gap between the countries' expectations and the real benefits of implementation caused by lack of resources led to a feeling of frustration among local authorities. Should the size of the projects be limited? Should they be better targeted? Should the priorities be classified? Or could assurance of a follow-up be in some way a criterion for any new CAMP?

65. The Director of PAP/RAC replied that although there was as yet no official decision, in the future it would be possible to include a clause on the steps to be taken to ensure the follow-up, with a timetable, financing, etc. in any new CAMP agreement. For some countries, however, that would imply commitments they might find difficult to meet unless outside financing was sought because the allocation within the MAP budget barely sufficed to implement the project themselves.

66. One participant emphasized that CAMPs had originally been designed as pilot projects that mobilized all MAP components around a particular area. There had been no question of MAP ensuring a follow-up. There would have to be a completely new departure, opening up new perspectives, such as the Euro-Med Partnership. Another representative considered that MAP could not be responsible for the follow-up, it was the responsibility of the countries themselves to do that, seeking donors, planning investment, etc.

67. The Coordinator considered that the main elements of the analysis had been clearly explained. In the beginning, the object of the CAMPs had been to test a particular global and applied vision of the MAP and the feasibility of integrated management in the field. For countries, it was not only a question of showing the effectiveness of the MAP in the field – and that explained their interest in such projects – but more realistically of translating the projects into practical exercises in planning on their own territory. If the original objective were followed, it would suffice to terminate the exercise and publish guidelines. Countries wanted something more today, however, and the MAP was not equipped financially to respond to their expectations because they raised implementation issues such as the financing of sewage treatment plants, sanitation networks, measures to combat erosion, protection of sites, etc. The MAP had therefore tried to respond to those concerns by submitting a regional project to MEDA composed of two components: a legal component to assist in developing legislation on the coast; and an operational component to implement a series of CAMPs in eligible countries. However, the project had not been accepted. The MAP had drawn the lesson from that failure, namely, that it was countries and not the MED Unit that had to propose projects. The MAP would support them by establishing a link with the EU and the Partnership, in conformity with the recommendations in the Athens Declaration.

68. One other question remained: should new CAMPs be initiated? Mr. Chabason said that it was obvious that countries were eager to have them. Some countries whose natural and cultural heritage had been little exploited and which wished to develop tourism could justifiably seek implementation of a CAMP, in the same way as other countries whose coast was highly urbanized. But should CAMPs continue one after the other, occasionally with some guidelines, recommendations or white papers that were, in the end, fairly academic? The vast tourism projects emerging all around, the pressures for excessive urbanization of the coast – which applied to all countries – meant that the issue was too serious not to develop a common more strategic, ambitious and binding vision of coastal management in the years to come, going beyond individual activities in the field. The MAP had the mandate to do that. It might be in the form of a protocol – for which a feasibility study had been requested at the Monaco meeting – or a coastal SAP. In any event, the question deserved to be included in the agenda of the next meeting of the Contracting Parties.

69. In connection with the proposal by Spain for a CAMP for the “Mar Menor” lagoon in the Murcia region, the Director of PAP/RAC indicated that it was a special pilot project, the first CAMP envisaged in a major developed country in the North of the Mediterranean and, for that reason, it should not have any financial implications for the MAP nor take up too many human resources in the RACs that had other CAMPs to implement. Subject to that reservation and the Contracting Parties’ decision on launching the CAMP, the Bureau decided to endorse the initiation of a feasibility study on the CAMP in question.

70. The President summarized the main points of the debate on which agreement had been reached and the meeting approved the following decision on Coastal Area Management Programmes.

## **DECISION**

- **Following the presentation by the Director of PAP/RAC, the Members of the Bureau endorsed the continuation of Coastal Area Management Programmes, which represented for beneficiary countries a unique opportunity to take advantage of expertise of all MAP components in the field.**
- **Nevertheless, the meeting underlined the shortcomings in the follow-up of programmes. In order to remedy the situation, it proposed that, in future, all new CAMP agreements should include a clause on the follow-up and appropriate funding. Countries were responsible for presenting**

concrete projects and the MAP would serve as a bridge with European and international financing institutions. It was also decided that the Secretariat would prepare a document of a political nature on the overall vision of Coastal Area Management Programmes for submission to the next meeting of the Contracting Parties.

- The Bureau agreed in principle to the conduct of a feasibility study on the CAMP proposed by Spain for the Mar Menor (Murcia region), the final decision to be taken by the Contracting Parties.  
In the Bureau's view, such a CAMP should not have financial implications for MAP or require human resources from MAP that would be incompatible with the continuation of the other CAMPs.

#### **(j) Specially protected areas**

71. The Secretariat introduced the relevant section of its Progress Report. With regard to the proposal by the Government of Catalonia to "offer MAP the possibility of using a recently created SPA Centre for cooperation with SPA/RAC in the follow-up and implementing of SPAMIs", one representative noted that it was the first time to his knowledge that such a proposal had been made. Although he did not question its interest for biodiversity, in order to avoid any misinterpretation of the links with the MAP, at its next meeting the Bureau should be informed of the memorandum of agreement to be signed with the Centre and asked to approve it. The expression "cooperation in the follow-up and implementing of SPAMIs", which was part of the legal component of the SPA Protocol, should be avoided. The meeting shared that view.

#### **DECISION**

**With regard to the proposal by the Government of Catalonia to offer the MAP use of a centre for cooperation with SPA/RAC in follow-up and implementation related to protected areas, the meeting requested the Secretariat to prepare a more detailed proposal that could be used to finalize a memorandum of agreement to be submitted to the Bureau at its next meeting.**

#### **(k) Environment and Development**

72. The Secretariat presented this section of the report which did not raise any particular questions from the participants.

#### **Agenda item 4: Preparation of the next Contracting Parties' meeting**

73. The Coordinator indicated that, in view of the time needed between the meeting of NFPs in September 2003 and the meeting of the Contracting Parties, the latter meeting would have to be held in the last week of November 2003 or beginning December 2003. It would be hosted by the Municipality of Catania (Sicily).

74. Mr. Chabason recalled that in recent years the Secretariat had endeavoured to improve the presentation and legibility of documents submitted to meetings of the Contracting Parties and to rationalize the presentation of the budget. It had now become customary for the meeting of the NFPS to consider all the documents and all the technical details, while the meeting of Contracting Parties primarily examined and adopted decisions on major political issues. At the next meeting in Catania, the Secretariat had decided on a new step by dividing the large progress report customarily submitted by the Executive Director into six types of document, each with a separate purpose: (i) scientific or evaluation; (ii) reports on activities; (iii) RAC evaluations; (iv) strategy documents; (v) draft recommendations by the MCSD; and (vi) budget documents.

75. Although he did not object to the principle of dividing the document, one representative considered that, from the purely practical point of view of handling, consulting and referring to the document, a series of documents by topic would complicate the work of participants. Two other participants expressed the view that in general there were too many recommendations to the Contracting Parties and that political recommendations to the Contracting Parties or other institutions were placed on the same level as recommendations on action or day-to-day business, which were addressed to the Secretariat and should be seen rather as "instructions". In response, it was stated that the meeting of the Contracting Parties alone was empowered to decide even on technical or secondary matters and that recommendations were therefore considered as a whole, otherwise there would be a risk of confusion. Lastly, the status of recommendations by the MCSD was not very clear: they were first of all recommendations by the MCSD to the Contracting Parties before becoming recommendations by the MCSD itself once the Contracting Parties had approved them.

76. The Coordinator, summarizing the debate, considered that the approach followed at the meeting of the Contracting Parties in Monaco had been relatively satisfactory: it was indeed the ministerial meeting that had decided on the recommendations as a whole, but it had had before it a series of recommendations of a technical nature approved by the NFPs, which had been endorsed without debate. It had also considered a series of recommendations of a political nature, which had been the subject of debate. Such a formula would also help to lessen the duration of the Contracting Parties' meetings because the international environmental agenda had become too heavy to allow ministers to be absent for several days. As to the recommendations addressed to the Secretariat, they should be placed in the category of "decisions". Regarding the status of recommendations by the MCSD, he agreed that it should be reviewed and the Secretariat would seek to find another formula.

#### **Agenda item 5: Date and place of the next meeting of the Bureau**

77. The Secretariat indicated that the next meeting of the Bureau would be held in approximately six months' time and that it would have a heavy agenda comprising preparation of the budget, overall evaluation of the MAP, and preparations for Catania. The exact date would be determined later in consultation with the members of the Bureau. The representative of Bosnia and Herzegovina announced that her country offered to host the meeting in Sarajevo.

#### **DECISION**

**The Bureau accepted with gratitude the generous offer of Bosnia and Herzegovina to host the next meeting of the Bureau in Sarajevo. It was agreed that the meeting should be held between mid-April and mid-May 2003 at a date to be fixed subsequently in consultation with all the members.**

#### **Agenda item 6: Any other business**

78. Under this agenda item, the President announced that, together with the UNDP in Geneva (World Alliance of Cities against Poverty), Monaco was organizing a meeting of Mediterranean cities on the topic of "Experience of Mediterranean cities in combating poverty" from 31 March to 2 April 2003. The topic might be of interest to the MCSD in connection with its refocusing on the Johannesburg Action Plan.

79. Monaco had also undertaken a study on the problems raised by the development of leisure activities, in collaboration with the Economic Law of the Sea Institute (INDEMER). The problems would continue to amplify in the Mediterranean and would in particular have an impact on coastal zone management. In the light of the initial studies, it would appear that

the problems might be the subject of a legal protocol that could ultimately form part of the Barcelona system. In the meantime, the President gave an informal overview of the results of the work of the Monegasque Government and INDEMER, but at the next meeting in Sarajevo, following a technical consultation with the Secretariat of the Barcelona Convention, he would no doubt be in a position to make a more detailed proposal that could subsequently be put before the Contracting Parties.

**Agenda item 7: Closure of the meeting**

80. Following the customary exchange of courtesies, the President declared the meeting closed at 5.45 p.m. on Friday, 18 October 2002.

**ANNEX I**

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## ANNEX II

### Summary of decisions of the meeting of the Bureau held in Monaco

#### 1. Status of ratification

- The Bureau decided that its President would address a letter to the MAP National Focal Points reminding them that when the ratification process had been completed in their respective countries, they are requested to notify the depositary State immediately so that the latter may prepare an updated status of ratification of the Convention and its Protocols.
- With respect to the SPA and Biodiversity Protocol, the Bureau also recalled that its ratification concerned both the Protocol and its Annexes, which constitute one single document. The President would send a letter on the subject to the Contracting Parties and in particular to the depositary State.

#### 2. Reporting system

The Bureau stresses the importance of the trial exercise carried out by several countries on a voluntary basis enabling a reporting system to be set up at MAP, with a view to the enforcement of the new and amended MAP legal instruments in the near future. Such a system should be rational and consistent with that under other regional or international environmental conventions.

#### 3. Liability and compensation for damages

The Bureau took note of the review of the liability and compensation issue contained in Annex II to the Progress Report. It invited the Secretariat to convene a restricted group of experts which, after detailed analysis, would report to the next Bureau meeting on the advisability and feasibility of setting up a Mediterranean legal instrument on the subject.

#### 4. Monitoring system for the effective implementation of MAP legal instruments

On the basis of the proposals contained in Annex III to the Secretariat's Progress Report, the Bureau requested the Secretariat to submit to its next meeting a proposal on the composition and working method of the proposed technical committee, whose task would be to examine the problems related to the implementation of MAP legal instruments. This should be done on a non-jurisdictional basis.

The final decision would lie with the next meeting of the Contracting Parties.

#### 5. Evaluation of MAP

The Bureau requested the Secretariat to set up as soon as possible a "think tank" to prepare the global assessment of the MAP requested by the Contracting Parties at their meeting in Monaco.

The group would be composed as follows:

- The President of the Bureau of the Contracting Parties (Monaco);
- A representative of a Mediterranean country member of the EU (Greece);
- A representative of a southern or eastern Mediterranean country (Syrian Arab Republic);

- A representative of a Mediterranean country included in the next enlargement of the EU (Slovenia); and
- Two experts to be appointed by the Secretariat.

The group could consult intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and would focus its evaluation on the following:

- A prospective approach;
- Adjustment of the MAP, in particular of the MSCD, to the post-Johannesburg context, including in its considerations the task force deliberations on the future of the MCSD;
- The MAP's integration into the European context (Euro-Med Partnership, EU legislation, etc.)
- Criteria for more active participation by the MAP in technical assistance activities provided to countries.

An interim progress report would be submitted to the Bureau at its next meeting for subsequent transmission to the meeting of the Contracting Parties.

## **6. Second Euro-Mediterranean Conference on the Environment**

The Bureau welcomed the Athens Ministerial Declaration (July 2002), which indicated a real desire for increased cooperation between the Euro-Med Partnership and the MAP and recognized *inter alia* the role of the MAP and the MCSD in the formulation of a Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development

The Secretariat was requested to make all the necessary contacts with the European Commission so that the determination expressed in the Declaration was translated into practical action.

The President of the Bureau would also send a letter to this effect to the authorities of the Commission.

## **7. Earth Summit**

The President would send a letter to the MIO-ECSDE NGO network to thank it for having organized the Mediterranean event during the Johannesburg Summit, which had been highly successful.

## **8. List of MAP partners**

The Bureau considered and approved the new list of MAP partners, with the common and additional criteria adopted for their inclusion or maintenance on the list. As a result, it also approved the removal from the list of 15 organizations that did not meet the criteria.

## **9. Financial and personnel matters**

### **A. Financial matters**

#### *Payment of contributions*

The Bureau decided to envisage the following improvements to procedures for the payment of contributions:

- Earlier invoicing

After receiving the report of the meeting of Contracting Parties (which contains the approved budget), the BFMS should notify countries by December at the latest (in other words, during the month following the Contracting Parties' meeting) and in October-November of the first year of the biennium for contributions relating to the second financial year.

- Mechanism within countries for more rapid payment of contributions  
The Parties should take all necessary steps to ensure that their contributions are paid during the first quarter of the year and, at the latest, by the end of the first half of the year concerned.
- Stricter reminders  
Where needed, the MED Unit should systematically send reminders to each National Focal Point every two months.

### *Use of the Euro*

The Bureau drew attention to the recommendation made by the last meeting of the Contracting Parties to the effect that in future the Euro would be the unit of currency used within the MAP.

Having taken note of the contacts made by the Coordinating Unit and the status of the discussions with the relevant United Nations services, the Bureau once more underlined the need to abide strictly by decisions by the Parties.

Consequently, the next budget, notifications of contributions and the majority of the MAP's financial operations would be in Euros.

An account in Euros should be opened within the Trust Fund so as to facilitate transactions.

### **B. Personnel matters**

- The Bureau unanimously expressed the wish that the term of office of the present Coordinator of the MAP be extended until December 2003 to allow him to ensure the essential continuity in the preparation and conduct of the next meeting of the Contracting Parties (November 2003).
- The President was requested to contact the Executive Director of UNEP once more regarding the matter, taking into account the letter already sent by the Greek authorities in that regard.
- The Bureau took note of the job vacancy notice concerning the post of Coordinator and expressed the desire to be associated with the selection of candidates, which should be transparent.
- The President would address a letter to this effect to UNEP and another letter to all Mediterranean Ministers for the Environment urging them to seek and propose suitable candidates from their countries for the post.

### **10. SAP activities**

The Bureau decided to request countries urgently to commence, in cooperation with the Secretariat, the process for establishing their national baseline for emissions/discharge of pollutants for 2003, which should be used as the basis for gradually achieving the reductions in pollution envisaged in the SAP.

### **11. Coastal area management programmes**

- Following the presentation by the Director of PAP/RAC, the Members of the Bureau endorsed the continuation of Coastal Area Management Programmes,

which represented for beneficiary countries a unique opportunity to take advantage of expertise of all MAP components in the field.

- Nevertheless, the meeting underlined the shortcomings in the follow-up of programmes. In order to remedy the situation, it proposed that, in future, all new CAMP agreements should include a clause on the follow-up and appropriate funding. Countries were responsible for presenting concrete projects and the MAP would serve as a bridge with European and international financing institutions. It was also decided that the Secretariat would prepare a document of a political nature on the overall vision of Coastal Area Management Programmes for submission to the next meeting of the Contracting Parties.
- The Bureau agreed in principle to the conduct of a feasibility study on the CAMP proposed by Spain for the Mar Menor (Murcia region), the final decision to be taken by the Contracting Parties.  
In the Bureau's view, such a CAMP should not have financial implications for MAP or require human resources from MAP that would be incompatible with the continuation of the other CAMPs.

## **12. SPA/RAC activities**

With regard to the proposal by the Government of Catalonia to offer the MAP use of a centre for cooperation with SPA/RAC in follow-up and implementation related to protected areas, the meeting requested the Secretariat to prepare a more detailed proposal that could be used to finalize a memorandum of agreement to be submitted to the Bureau at its next meeting.

## **13. Date and place of the next meeting of the Bureau**

The Bureau accepted with gratitude the generous offer of Bosnia and Herzegovina to host the next meeting of the Bureau in Sarajevo. It was agreed that the meeting should be held between mid-April and mid-May 2003 at a date to be fixed subsequently in consultation with all the members.

## ANNEX III

### AGENDA OF THE MEETING OF THE BUREAU (Monaco, 17 and 18 October 2002)

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Adoption of the provisional agenda and organization of work
3. Progress report by the Secretariat on activities carried out since the last Bureau Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention (Damascus, 18 and 19 March 2002)
  - (a) *Legal matters:*
    - Documents presenting the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols;
    - Status of ratification;
    - Implementation of the reporting system;
    - Liability and compensation for damages;
    - MAP support to countries on legal matters
    - Monitoring system for the effective implementation of MAP legal instruments.
  - (b) *Institutional matters:*
    - Evaluation of MAP;
    - Follow-up to the evaluation of BP/RAC, PAP/RAC, the Historic Sites, SPA/RAC and REMPEC.
  - (c) *Cooperation:*
    - Second Euro-Mediterranean Conference on the Environment: prospects for MAP cooperation;
    - Johannesburg Summit – lessons for MAP.
  - (d) *Partners*
    - Review of the list of partners.
  - (e) *Financial matters:*
    - Improvement of mechanisms for the payment of contributions;
    - Status of financial implementation of the MAP programme and budget;
    - Use of the Euro in MAP's activities and budget.
  - (f) *Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD)*
  - (g) *Meetings:*
    - Review of the MAP calendar of meetings.
  - (h) *Prevention and control of pollution*

1. Evaluation and control of pollution from land-based sources;
  2. Evaluation and control of pollution from maritime sources;
  3. Cleaner production
    - (i) *Sustainable management of coastal areas*
    - (j) *Sustainable management of coastal areas*
    - (k) *Environment and development*
  4. Preparation of the next Contracting Parties' meeting.
  5. Date and place of the next meeting of the Bureau.
  6. Any other business.
  7. Closure of the meeting.
- (The report of the meeting will be prepared by the MED Unit and sent to the rapporteur and other members of the Bureau for their comments)*

**ANNEX IV**

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