

UNITED
NATIONS



EP

UNEP/MED WG.555/2



**United Nations
Environment Programme
Mediterranean Action Plan**

Distr.: General
3 February 2023
Original: English

Meeting of the Ecosystem Approach Correspondence Group on Marine Litter Monitoring

Athens, Greece 3 March 2023

Agenda Item 2: Organizational Matters

Provisional Annotated Agenda

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UNEP/MAP
Athens, 2023

Introduction

1. In accordance with the UNEP/MAP Programme of Work 2022-2023 adopted by the 22nd Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols (Decision IG.25/19, Antalya, Turkiye, 7-10 December 2021), and within the framework of preparation of the 2023 edition of the Mediterranean Quality Status Report (2023 MED QSR), UNEP/MAP is organizing the Meeting of the Ecosystem Approach Correspondence Group on Marine Litter Monitoring (CorMon Marine Litter) to be held in Athens, Greece on 3 March 2023.

2. The objectives of the CorMon Marine Litter Meeting, are to review and approve MED POL proposals on:

- a) The Updated Baseline and Threshold Values for IMAP Common Indicator 2023.
- b) The Draft Marine Litter Chapter for the 2023 MED QSR.
- c) The Updated Guidelines for Monitoring Riverine Inputs of Marine Litter.

3. The following annotations to the Provisional Agenda were prepared by the Secretariat to assist the Meeting in its deliberations.

Provisional Annotated Agenda

Agenda item 1: Opening of the Meeting

4. The Meeting will be opened at 09:30 AM (EET) on 3 March 2023 by the Coordinator of the United Nations Environment Programme/ Mediterranean Action Plan - Barcelona Convention Secretariat.

Agenda item 2: Organizational Matters

Working Document:	UNEP/MED WG.555/1
Information Documents:	UNEP/MED WG.555/2
	UNEP/MED WG.555/Inf.1

a) *Rules of Procedure*

5. The Rules of Procedure for Meetings and Conferences of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean and its Protocols will apply mutatis mutandis to the present Meeting (UNEP/IG.43/6, Annex XI).

b) *Election of Officers*

6. Subject to Rule 20 of the rules of procedure mentioned at para. 2(a), the Meeting will elect a President, three Vice Presidents and a Rapporteur from among the representatives of the Contracting Parties.

c) *Adoption of the Provisional Agenda*

7. Subject to Rule 14 of the rules of procedure mentioned at para. 2(a), the proposed agenda appearing in document UNEP/MED WG.555/2 and annotated in the present document will be reviewed

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

d) Organization of Work

8. The discussions are planned to be held in two plenary sessions from 09:30 to 12:30, and from 14:30 to 17:30 during this one-day Meeting as per the Meeting Timetable included at the end of the annotated agenda.

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

10. It is envisaged to close the Meeting at 17:30 on 3 March 2023 after adopting its Conclusions and Recommendations.

Agenda item 3: Updated Baseline Values (BV) and Threshold Values (TV) for IMAP Common Indicator 23 (Seafloor macro-litter, Floating micro-plastics)

Working Document:	UNEP/MED WG.555/3
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11. Under this agenda item, the Secretariat (MED POL) will present the Updated Baseline Values (BV) and Threshold Values (TV) for IMAP Common Indicator 23 and in particular for seafloor macro-litter and floating micro-plastics (UNEP/MED WG.555/3), in line with the 2023 MED QSR Roadmap implementation. The Secretariat wishes to note that the proposed values have been used for the preparation of the marine litter chapters of the 2023 MEQ QSR.

12. The Meeting is expected to discuss and endorse the document and provide guidance to the Secretariat on the next steps to be followed with regard to the marine litter related IMAP implementation, as appropriate.

Agenda item 4: 2023 Mediterranean Quality Status Report (QSR): Marine Litter Ecological Objective (EO10)

Working Document:	UNEP/MED WG.555/4
Information Document:	UNEP/MED WG.555/Inf.3

13. Under this agenda item, the Secretariat (MED POL) will present the proposed chapter for marine litter (IMAP EO10), prepared in the framework of the preparation of the 2023 MED QSR. The marine litter chapter is solely based on data officially submitted by the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention through IMAP InfoSystem. It makes use of the established assessment criteria, or in the process of establishment for IMAP EO10 and its Common Indicators 22 and 23. In this chapter, assessment of the GES/nonGES status through the application of respective assessment methodologies (e.g., CHASE+ and NEAT assessment methodologies) is presented, as well as quantitative and qualitative information and findings which are linked to the extent possible with the implementation of the provisions of the updated Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean.

14. The Meeting is expected to review the proposed chapter on marine litter for the 2023 MED QSR, provide feedback on the use of assessment criteria and the of the GES-related assessment tools, and

provide guidance to the Secretariat on the way forward and towards its submission to the Integrated CORMON Meeting foreseen in June 2023.

Agenda item 5: Guidelines for Monitoring Riverine Inputs of Marine Litter

<i>Working Documents</i>	UNEP/MED WG.555/5
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15. Considering the needs to fill the methodological gaps on all different aspects of marine litter monitoring, the Secretariat (MED POL) introduced in May 2022 the working document UNEP/MED WG.534/4 presenting the first approach for elaborating guidelines for monitoring riverine inputs of marine litter.

16. Under this agenda item, the Secretariat (MED POL) will present the updated version of the Guidelines further to the engagement of the Online Working Group on Marine Litter (OWG-ML). The working document UNEP/MED WG.555/5 reflects a new, revised outline having a focus on four (4) principal methodologies, as well as an analysis of the respective advantages and disadvantages.

17. The Meeting is expected to review the guidelines and endorse their submission to the upcoming Meeting of the MED POL Focal Points planned in May 2023.

Agenda item 6: Any Other Business

18. Under this Agenda Item, the Meeting will be invited to raise and discuss other matters that may require attention, as agreed during the adoption of the agenda.

Agenda item 7: Conclusions and Recommendations

19. The Meeting will be invited to review and adopt the draft conclusions and recommendations, capturing the outcomes of the discussions as prepared by the Rapporteur.

Agenda item 8: Closure of the Meeting

20. The Chair will close the Meeting at 17:30 on Friday 3 March 2023.

Proposed Timetable

Friday, 3 March 2023		Related documents
09:00 – 09:30	Registration	
09:30 – 09:45	Agenda Item 1: Opening of the Meeting	
09:45 – 10:00	Agenda Item 2: Organizational Matters	UNEP/MED WG.555/1 UNEP/MED WG.555/2 UNEP/MED WG.555/Inf.1
10:00 – 11:00	Agenda Item 3: Updated Baseline Values (BV) and Threshold Values (TV) for IMAP Common Indicator 23 (Seafloor macro-litter, Floating micro-plastics)	UNEP/MED WG.555/3
11:00 – 12:30	Agenda Item 4: 2023 Mediterranean Quality Status Report (QSR): Marine Litter Ecological Objective (EO10)	UNEP/MED WG.555/4 UNEP/MED WG.555/Inf.3
<i>12:30 – 14:30</i>	<i>Lunch Break</i>	
14:30 – 15:45	Agenda item 4 (continued): 2023 Mediterranean Quality Status Report: Draft Chapters IMAP EO10 Marine Litter (Cont.)	UNEP/MED WG.555/4 UNEP/MED WG.555/Inf.3
15:45 – 16:30	Agenda Item 5: Guidelines for Monitoring Riverine Inputs of Marine Litter	UNEP/MED WG.555/5
16:30 – 16:45	Agenda Item 6: Any Other Business	
16:45 – 17:30	Agenda Item 7: Conclusions and Recommendations	
17:30	Agenda Item 8: Closure of the Meeting	