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Introduction

1. At the invitation of the Government of France, the 75th Meeting of the Bureau of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols was held on 3 and 4 July 2012 in Paris, France.

Participation

2. The representatives from Algeria, France, Italy, Monaco, Tunisia and Turkey attended the Bureau meeting. In addition, representatives of European Union attended the second day as observer; and Malta and IMO attended the first part of the financial update session as observers.
3. The list of participants is attached as Annex I to this report.

Opening of the meeting

4. The meeting was opened by the President of the Bureau H.E. Jean-Pierre Thébault, French Ambassador for the Environment. He welcomed the Bureau members.
5. Ms Maria Luisa Silva Mejias, Executive Secretary and Coordinator of MAP, also welcomed the Bureau Members and thanked France for hosting the meeting.

Adoption of the Agenda and organization of work

6. Upon the request of the Government of Malta, the Bureau agreed on the participation of a representative from Malta at the relevant session on IMO and REMPEC discussions on the second day of the Meeting as an observer.
7. As agreed during the informal meeting of the Bureau after the 17th Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols, the report of the meeting was agreed to be very succinct and mainly focusing on the conclusions and recommendations of the Bureau.
8. The Bureau reviewed and adopted the Provisional Agenda as contained in document UNEP/BUR/75/2/Cor.1. (Annex II)

Progress Report by the Secretariat on activities carried out during the period February 2012-July 2012

9. The Secretariat presented the Progress Report on activities carried out during the period February 2012-July 2012. The Bureau commended the Secretariat and after the discussions agreed to:
 - ask the Coordinating Unit to provide the Bureau at its next meeting, a detailed report on Resource Mobilization Strategy progress, with updated financial information;
 - call upon the concerned Contracting Parties to accept the amendments to the Barcelona Convention by COP 18, in order to reach universal acceptance;
 - encourage the concerned Contracting Parties to accept the amendments of the Dumping Protocol by COP 18, so as to ensure at least one more acceptance by a Contracting Party, which is needed for its entry into force; and,

- call the concerned Contracting Parties to ratify as soon as possible the ICZM Protocol, to ensure that at least, countries representing two third of the Mediterranean coast have ratified by COP 18; and requested PAP/RAC to provide technical support to concerned Contracting Parties regarding the implications of the ICZM Protocol.

Report by the Secretariat on Specific issues

10. The Secretariat presented the Report on Specific issues. The Bureau welcomed the progress made and after discussions agreed to:

Cooperation with other Organizations

- acknowledge the finalization and signing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM) and endorse the proposed areas of cooperation, bearing in mind environment needs and inviting relevant third parties with mandates on suggested issues, such as ACCOBAMS, as appropriate; and ask the Secretariat to also consider among the priority fields of cooperation, issues such as litter including fishing gear, micro-plastic and micro-garbage pollution; fish food for aquaculture; illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing (IUU), accidental and non-targeted fishing and invasive alien species, and report back on progress in operationalizing the MoU at the next Bureau Meeting;
- ask the Secretariat to operationalize the institutional agreement between UNEP and International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) along the lines suggested and in particular, by ensuring the use of IUCN's experts groups on the Mediterranean and report back on progress to the next Bureau Meeting;
- acknowledge the initial steps undertaken by the Secretariat to develop the cooperation with Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) through an MoU which should underline that Barcelona Convention has a privileged role for UfM in the Mediterranean and that MAP capacities and components be used for this matter. The Bureau requested that the MoU focuses on concrete operational issues that are priorities for Barcelona Convention such as co-labeling projects under H2020, ICZM, Maritime Traffic and sustainable development in light of RIO+20, as a matter of priority;
- call upon the Secretariat to also develop a formal agreement with CBD as a matter of priority based on the results of Nagoya and the Strategic Programme 2020, in particular addressing marine and coastal biodiversity and through the identification of EBSA, achieve target 11;
- welcome the Secretariat commitment to ensure coherence in Mediterranean cooperation between sub-regional and regional level through initiatives such as the Adriatic and the Western Mediterranean, which should take place also at the initiative of the countries concerned and their governance arrangements such as the Adriatic-Ionian Initiative and '5+5';
- take note on the dialogue and a common approach to the cooperation with other neighboring regional seas including the Regional Organization for the Conservation of the Environment of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden (PERSGA). Initial activities like information and experience exchange and database development should be considered and gradually move to more substantive cooperation, as appropriate;

Ecosystem Approach (EcAp) Process

- take note of the conclusions and recommendations of the first meeting of the Ecosystem Approach (EcAp) Coordination Group and its terms of reference, and ask to include references to the correspondence groups and the clusters (Annex III). The Bureau recognized that the document outlining details of the governance structure of the EcAP process, including inter-connections between the Correspondence Groups and the EcAP Coordination Group will be useful to clarify the scope and importance of the exercise; the Bureau also underline the need to carry out the implementation of ECAP through a coordinated cooperation with the National Focal Points. The process to select consultants will be open and transparent in accordance to UN Rules, allowing National Focal Points to propose qualified candidates as need be;

RIO+20 – Outcomes and relevance with the Mediterranean

- request the Secretariat to prepare a synthesis document for the next meeting of the Bureau, encompassing the main outcomes of RIO+20, as related to the Mediterranean context with special emphasis on the role of Civil Society, Oceans and Seas, EcAp, cost of degradation, MCSD, Sustainable Production and Consumption, Sustainable Development Goals and Green/Blue Economy;
- underline the need to reaffirm a common vision on sustainable development for the Mediterranean, in line with the outcomes of the RIO+20, taking into account the specificity of the region in order to include appropriate references in the coming five year Strategic Programme 2014-2019;
- further request the Secretariat to assess how to restructure MCSD based on the progress and learnings as developed in RIO +20 with regard to the transformation of the Commission on Sustainable Development into a High Level Political Forum. This should take into account clearly the three pillars (social, economic, environmental) of the sustainable development agenda.

Extended Functional Review

11. The Bureau reviewed the Terms of Reference of the Mediterranean Contact Group, and adopted it with amendments as attached in Annex IV. The Bureau also recommended to the Secretariat to invite Mr. David Johnson and a representative of UNEP Evaluation Unit as members of the Mediterranean Contact Group.

IMO relations

12. The representative of the Government of Malta and the representative of IMO delivered their presentations. The Bureau thanked both representatives and after discussions agreed to:
 - thank the Secretary General of IMO for this opportunity to brief the Bureau which was useful to better understand the circumstances of the decisions taken by IMO Council in their last meeting in June;

- thank IMO for the offer of a loan of Euro 80,000 provided by IMO to enable REMPEC to navigate through the difficult financial position. However, in view of the new provisions of the MTF, the Bureau thanks the Secretary General and decided not to request the loan;
- take advantage of the initiative of the Secretary General of IMO to organize a meeting on 26 September 2012 in London with representatives of the Mediterranean countries, to enable in depth dialogue on REMPEC and discuss the possible updating of the cooperation between UNEP and IMO regarding the center;
- recognize IMO as an important and strategic partner as it has been since 1976, and encourage the representatives of the Mediterranean countries in the IMO Council to highlight the importance of the Mediterranean and the efforts to combat oil pollution through international maritime traffic also beyond Mediterranean countries, taking into account and keeping the 1976 spirit of joint cooperation alive; and,
- In light of the precarious regional financial situation, urge the Coordinating Unit and IMO to develop a management contingency plan for 2013, and discuss how to manage the situation for following years in a sustainable manner in order to avoid a future crisis that may put REMPEC operations at stake;
- Also urge the Coordinating Unit to prepare a note of clarification of institutional status of the relationships between Barcelona Convention, Malta and IMO, including legal responsibilities and liabilities the cost of operations and the results achieved, to be presented at the next Bureau meeting for consideration.

Finance

13. The Bureau reviewed MAP's financial situation and expressed its deep concerns on the impact of the delays of payment of assessed contributions. It also reviewed the Secretariat's proposals regarding the reallocations of available funding, and agreed to:

- urge the Contracting Parties to pay their pending arrears and their assessed 2012 contribution as early as possible to provide financial resources for efficient management of the Programme of Work. In this context, it asked the Secretariat with the support of the Presidency to follow up with all the parties concerned;
- adopt the proposal submitted by the Secretariat under an expenditure Scenario 1 (75%), on the basis of precautionary principle. This will ensure functioning of MAP components till the end of 2012, irrespective of the funds that may come between today and the end of 2012, and use the remnants of funding received as a contingency reserve for 2013.
- adopt the following recommendations:
 - Request MAP to allocate funds received and savings achieved to cover salary costs on a priority basis by allowing a temporary financial assignment from budget lines managed by Coordinating Unit and MED POL until the time the income materializes;
 - Request MAP to freeze any recruitment under MTF until the financial situation improves;
 - Authorize the Coordinating Unit to use any positive balance in 2012, including if needed, amounts from the fund set aside for deficit recovery, towards

- covering, in priority, operational costs of all MAP components during the first 6 months of 2013 to be reassessed in the next Bureau Meeting;
- Request the Coordinating Unit to propose a contingency plan, which includes a prioritization of costs and activities for the implementation of the Programme of Work, as well as saving scenarios on meetings (merging, reducing, video-conferencing), travels and other costs in 2013.

Service agreement of UNEP

14. The Bureau took note of the framework of the Memorandum of Understanding and requests the UNEP Headquarters to present a draft Memorandum of Understanding to the next Bureau meeting.

Financial rule

15. The Bureau reviewed the suggestions on Financial Rules presented and requested the Coordinating Unit to present a draft version to the next Bureau meeting, noting difficulties by some countries regarding the paragraph 40, items a, c and d; and to consider the creation of a budget group during the COP.

Functional Review of the Coordinating Unit and MEDPOL

16. The Bureau took note that the Functional Review of the Coordinating Unit and MEDPOL is operational as of 1 July 2012.

Policy on Costs of Administration and Staff of the MAP System

17. The Bureau requested the Secretariat to prepare a policy on staff costs supported by the MTF, taking into account the results of the Extended Functional Review for consideration by the Bureau.

Budget decision making process

18. The Bureau asked the Secretariat to request all MAP components to include in the documents on the draft Program of Works 2014-2015 provisions on staff costs and indications on the prioritization of the activities, to be discussed in the thematic meetings of the National Focal Points;

Report on Savings to be achieved

19. The Bureau took note of the achieved savings and requested the Secretariat to continue making every effort towards achieving the set goals in savings.
20. The Bureau requested an update on savings achieved, separately for MEL and CAL accounts to be provided at the next meeting, including savings in operational costs of Regional Activity Centers.

Report on the status of implementation of the Audit Recommendations

21. The Bureau expressed its profound regret and deep concern on the delay of implementation of the "Audit of the financial performance of the UNEP Mediterranean Action Plan (AA2010/220/05 – 6/9/2011) - Recommendation no.3" and urge UNEP Headquarters to conclude the process to establish individual responsibilities and provide with a final report on findings within the 2012, to be reported at the next Bureau meeting.

22. The Bureau recalled the COP 17 Decision IG.20/14, to urge the Coordinating Unit to initiate recovery from the current deficit over a four-year period while engaging UNEP on further dialogue in order to find a mutually satisfactory solution for deficit recovery and to keep the Contracting Parties informed on progress made in this regard through the Bureau, the MAP Focal Points and the Contracting Parties meeting.

Any other issue

23. The next meeting will take place in Algeria in February 2013.

ANNEX I
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ANNEX II

AGENDA

AGENDA

DAY 1: TUESDAY, 3 JULY 2012

Agenda item 1: Opening of the meeting (09:30-09:45)

Agenda item 2: Adoption of the Provisional Agenda and organization of work (09:45-10:00)

Agenda item 3: Progress Report by the Secretariat on activities carried out during the period February 2012-July 2012 (10:00 – 11:00)

Agenda item 4: Discussions on Specific issues (11:30 – 13:00)

4.a. Cooperation with other Organizations (11:30-11:45)

4.b. ECAP Process (11:45 – 13:00)

Agenda item 4: Discussions on Specific issues (continues) (14:30 – 18:00)

4.c. Extended Functional Review (14:30 -17:00)

4.d. RIO+20 – Outcomes and relevance with the Mediterranean (17:00 – 18:00)

DAY 2: WEDNESDAY, 4 JULY 2012

Agenda item 5: Financial update and Administrative matters (09:30 – 13:00)

5.a. Financial Update (9:30 – 10:30)

5.b. International Maritime Organization (IMO) relations (10:30 – 11:30)

5.c. Financial Rules and other issues (12:00 – 13:00)

Agenda item 6: Any other business

Agenda item 7: Conclusions and decisions

Agenda item 8: Closure of the meeting

ANNEX III

TERMS OF REFERENCE OF ECAP COORDINATION GROUP

Terms of Reference for Ecosystem Approach Coordination Group (EcAp CG)

Background

Based on Operational Paragraph 6 of decision IG.20/4, "Implementing MAP ecosystem approach roadmap: Mediterranean Ecological and Operational Objectives, Indicators and Timetable for implementing the ecosystem approach roadmap" adopted by the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention at its 17th meeting in Paris, it was decided to establish an EcAp Coordination Group (EcAp CG) consisting of MAP focal points, the Coordinating Unit, the MAP components and MAP partners to oversee the implementation of the ecosystem approach, identifying progress gaps in the implementation of the road map and finding feasible solutions for the advancement of the EcAp agenda.

Mandate

1. In accordance with the Decision IG.20/4, EcAp CG shall integrate and give guidance to the work under the Barcelona Convention:
 - a) On the delivery of the ecosystem approach, making sure that all elements for its implementation are taken into account, weighting of priorities and resource implications; and,
 - b) Coordinating UNEP/MAP's facilitation role, in support of Contracting Parties in their implementation of EcAp.

Key activities

2. EcAP CG reviews and gives guidance on the way forward to the progress of EcAP implementation road map presented by UNEP/MAP in each EcAp CG Meeting.

With regard to Initial Assessments

3. Receive, review and endorse the work of the Clusters of the Socio-economic Analysis Correspondence Group regarding the necessary assessments to complement the integrated assessment of the Mediterranean Ecosystem with a socio-economic analysis

With regard to determination of Good Environmental Status and development of associated targets and indicators

4. Receive, review and endorse the work of the Clusters of GES & Targets Correspondence Group regarding the definition of GES and setting of targets, which will be developed through a common methodology at the Mediterranean and appropriate subscales;

With regard to monitoring and assessment

5. Receive, review and endorse the work of the Clusters of the Monitoring Correspondence Group and Clusters regarding the development of an integrated monitoring program;

With regard to programmes and measures

6. Consider whether the measures required at regional level through MAP sectoral policies to achieve the objectives of the EcAp in the Mediterranean are coherent and coordinated; and provide guidance to UNEP/MAP and its components;

With regard to overall governance of EcAp implementation in the Mediterranean

7. Advice on ways to ensure full participation of relevant UNEP/MAP partners, relevant projects and the scientific community, at all relevant levels, such as Correspondence Groups and clusters;
8. Consider cooperation with other European and/or other Regional Seas Conventions and EU to allow comparisons across borders of respective maritime areas;
9. Inform the Bureau about the results achieved; and,
10. Validate at policy level and in an integrated manner the results of the scientific and technical work carried out at regional and sub-regional level and prepare the necessary draft decisions for the MAP FPs and COP consideration.

Operation

11. EcAp CG Meetings will be led by a Chair-person, 2 vice-chairpersons and a rapporteur, elected at the beginning of the Meeting.
12. EcAP CG meets annually and more frequently if required.
13. "The rules of procedures for meetings and conferences of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution and its related Protocols" is applied for the organization and operation of the EcAP CG Meetings.

The Correspondence Groups

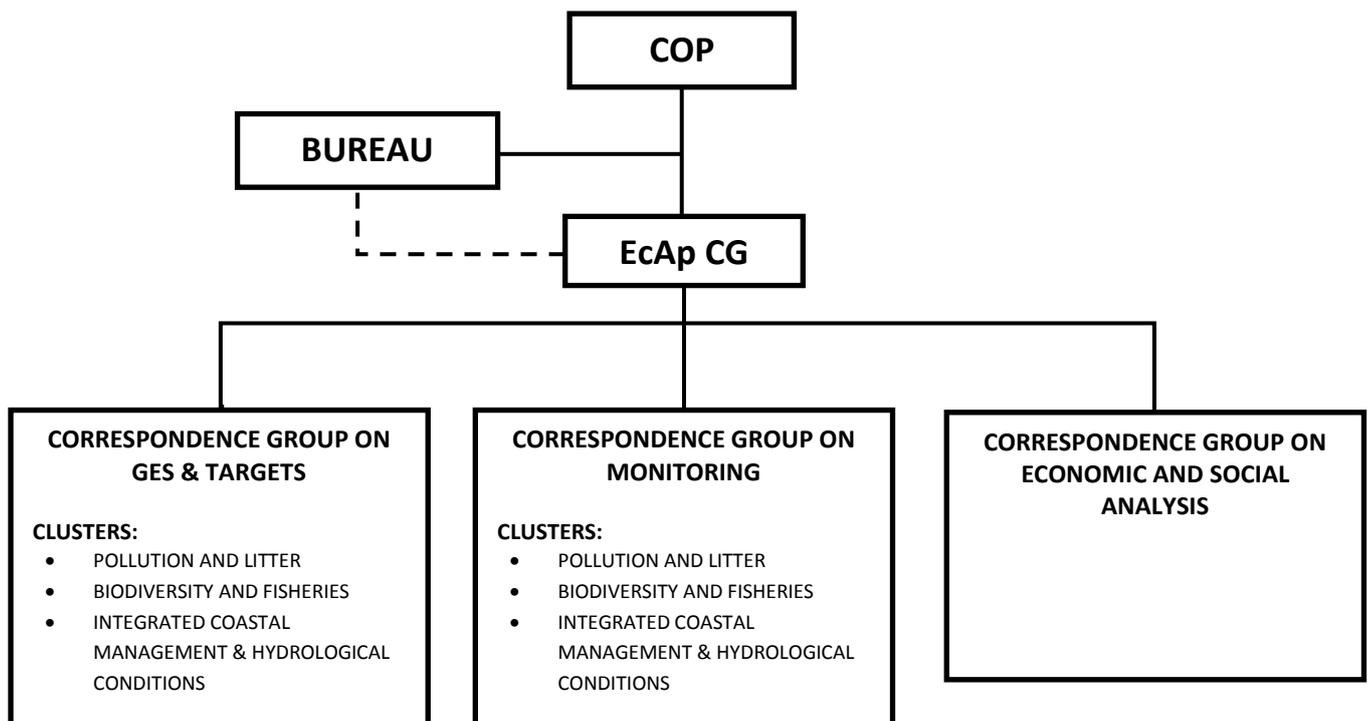
14. Three correspondence groups will be formed in the process of application of EcAp in the Mediterranean and to support EcAP Coordination Group: the Correspondence Group on GES and Targets, the Correspondence Group on Monitoring and the Correspondence Group on Economic and Social Analysis.
15. The Correspondence Group on GES and Targets will be composed of national experts designated by the Contracting Parties, and will be coordinated by the UNEP/MAP CU. It will work to ensure efficient coverage and in-depth discussions and analysis of all Ecological Objectives (EOs) and it will be made up of 3 clusters: 1) Pollution and litter related EOs (EOs 5, 9, 10 and 11); 2) Biodiversity and Fisheries related EOs (EOs 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6); and 3) ICZM and Hydrological Conditions related EOs (EOs 7 and 8). The expected outcome of the group is defining the methodology for Mediterranean targets, as well as identifying regional targets through a participatory process involving contracting parties and MAP components, to be submitted to COP 18.
16. The Correspondence Group on Monitoring will be composed of national experts designated by the Contracting Parties, and will be coordinated by MEDPOL. It will work to ensure efficient coverage and in-depth discussions and analysis regarding integrated monitoring, with reference to the outcomes of the Correspondence Group on GES and Targets and it will be made up of 3 clusters: 1) Pollution and litter related EOs (EOs 5, 9, 10 and 11); 2) Biodiversity and Fisheries related EOs (EOs 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6); and 3) ICZM and Hydrological Conditions related EOs (EOs 7 and 8). A Regional Thematic Expert will be assigned to each cluster to ensure coordination and provide technical assistance. The expected outcome of the group is determination of the methodology to be applied for the

preparation of the integrated monitoring programme, which will be submitted to EcAp CG for endorsement.

17. The Correspondence Group on Economic and Social Analysis will be composed of national experts designated by the Contracting Parties and invited experts, and coordinated by BP/RAC. It will further develop a socio economic analysis of marine ecosystems uses, focusing on priority sectors such as fisheries, aquaculture, maritime transport, recreational activities, oil industry and offshore. The overall objective of this group is to elaborate a common understanding and to foster a broad appropriation by Mediterranean riparian countries of the social and economic dimensions involved in the EcAp implementation.

18. At national level, the MAP Focal Point would be the member of the EcAp Coordination Group (as per COP17, Decision IG.20/4). The Contracting Parties would delegate a representative to each of the proposed Correspondence Groups. Also in order to ensure ownership, countries would be asked to nominate experts for consultation purposes. This could be an expert per each EO, or otherwise as per countries own decision as relevant.

The Organizational Chart



Coordination support by UNEP/MAP CU and its components

ANNEX IV
TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE CONTACT GROUP OF EXTENDED
FUNCTIONAL REVIEW

Terms of Reference for the Contact Group of Extended Functional Review

The 17th Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention (COP) held in Paris on February 2012 agreed to undertake a functional review of the UNEP/MAP – Barcelona Convention system with a view to better equip itself to efficiently and effectively address the challenges of the future. The Terms of Reference as approved by the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention through Decision IG.20/13 are attached as annex 1 to this document. This Review complements a Functional Review of its Coordinating Unit and Pollution Programme (MEDPOL) which was endorsed by the 17th COP Meeting.

The Functional Review will be outsourced to a consultancy firm engaged by the Secretariat through external procurement following the standards of UN competitive bidding processes and working in accordance with the TOR decided by the Contracting Parties. The consultancy firm will work in close association with the entities or other cooperating agencies responsible for the administration of Regional Activity Centers (RACs). Within the Secretariat, the UNEP/Evaluation Unit will tender the contract while the Functional Review will be managed by the UNEP/DEPI with the support of the Coordinating of the UNEP/MAP and under the overall supervision of the Bureau of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention. The Functional Review is expected to be carried out during the second half of 2012. The final report will be submitted to the Bureau for their consideration.

Purpose

Given the complexity and level of ambition of the task to be undertaken, it is proposed that the Functional Review (FR) exercise be assisted by a Mediterranean Contact Group (MCG).

The MCG will act as an independent reference board providing strategic, external and frank advice to the Secretariat who manages the review and ultimately to the Bureau on the institutional and policy context for the protection of the Sea and the Coast in the Mediterranean, acting as a sounding board for the proposals being considered for the future of the system and participating in the final reporting to the Bureau.

Scope of work

The MCG advises on the review, sharing their views and opinions on the Review through the Secretariat who has the responsibility for managing the sub-contract.

The MCG provides its advice during three critical junctures of the Functional Review exercise. It will thus provide its input to: the induction meeting launching the activities of the external service provider at which the Secretariat will also participate, including a teleconference with MAP Components; the draft preliminary report; and, the Bureau during its consideration of the final report.

Concretely, the MCG provides advice to the review team by reading and commenting on the inception report which will be communicated to them by the entity that is managing the review. They will also provide comments on the draft review report, and on the final report before it is submitted to the Bureau of the Contracting Parties. They will be available for further advice to the Bureau, as need be.

This will require the MCG to participate in three meetings. Their participation costs will be covered in accordance with UN standard policies and procedures.

Composition

The MCG will be made of two experts combining a very good understanding and hands-on experience of policies for the protection of the marine and coastal environment and sustainable development and review methods and processes (from UNEP/Evaluation Unit).

MCG members have been selected by the Bureau following a proposal from the Secretariat.

Background

The Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP), and its legal framework, the Barcelona Convention, were adopted in 1975 and 1976 respectively, under the umbrella of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). The main objectives of the Barcelona Convention are to assess and control marine pollution; ensure sustainable management of natural marine and coastal resources; integrate environmental protection into social and economic development; protect the marine environment and coastal zones; protect natural and cultural heritage; strengthen solidarity among Mediterranean coastal States; and contribute to an improvement of the quality of life in the Mediterranean region. Seven Protocols addressing specific aspects of Mediterranean environmental conservation further develop and complete the UNEP/MAP – Barcelona Convention legal framework.

The seven Protocols are: the Protocol for the Prevention of Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by Dumping from Ships and Aircraft (the Dumping Protocol) adopted in 1976 and amended in 1995 which is pending only one ratification to enter into force; the Protocol concerning cooperation in preventing Pollution from Ships and, in case of Emergency, combating Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea (the Prevention and Emergency Protocol) adopted in 2002 which entered into force in 2004; the Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution from Land-Based Sources of Activities (LBS Protocol) as amended in 1996 which entered into force in 2008; the Protocol Concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biologically Diversity in the Mediterranean (SPA and Biodiversity Protocol) adopted in 1995 which entered into force in 1999; the Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution resulting from Exploration and Exploitation of the Continental Shelf and the Seabed and its Subsoil (Offshore Protocol) adopted in 1994 and entered into force in 2011; the Protocol on the Prevention of Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal (Hazardous Wastes Protocol) adopted in 1996 and entered into force on 2008; and, the Protocol on Integrated Coastal Zone Management in the Mediterranean (ICZM Protocol) adopted in 2008 and entered into force on 2011.

In 1995 the Barcelona Convention was amended, broadening MAP's mandate beyond marine pollution control to include planning, management and support for the promotion of sustainable development in the region. The amended Convention applies many of the concepts embodied in the instruments adopted by the 1992 Rio Conference such as sustainable development, the precautionary principle, integrated coastal zone management, the use of best available techniques and best environmental practices, as well as promoting environmentally sound technology, including clean production technologies.

UNEP/MAP is recognized as a unique regional environmental legal framework and policy development process. As the guardian of the Barcelona Convention it coordinates the implementation of the Convention and related protocols. Its historical role in the Mediterranean is well recognized and respected both by the Parties and other key players in the region. It is the key environmental governance structure in the Mediterranean, with a longstanding pollution monitoring programme, a network of focal points in partner countries and a diversified network of regional activity centers that offer their expertise to the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols in the Mediterranean countries.

The 21 countries bordering the Mediterranean Sea and the European Union (EU) are the Contracting Parties (CPs) to the Barcelona Convention. They decide on MAP strategies, programmes and budget at biannual Ministerial meetings. A Coordinating Unit, based in Athens, performs legal and representational functions, facilitates dialogue and coordinates MAP's Programme of Work. Six technical Regional Activity Centers and a programme, so-called MAP components, assist Mediterranean countries in fulfilling their commitments under the Convention and the Protocols: MEDPOL, Greece, is responsible for marine pollution assessment and control; REMPEC, Malta, for Marine Pollution Emergency Response; SPA/RAC, Tunisia, for Biodiversity and Protected Areas; PAP/RAC, Croatia, for the promotion of Integrated Coastal Zone Management; BP/RAC, France, for prospective analyses of environment and sustainable development; CP/RAC, Spain, for Sustainable Consumption and Production; and INFO/RAC, Italy, for Environmental Information Systems. The Contracting parties defined the mandates of the Components by a decision adopted at their 16th Meeting in Marrakesh (2009).

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In 2008 the Contracting Parties launched a Governance reform with a view to: strengthen its ability to ensure implementation of the Barcelona Convention and the Protocols; improve effectiveness of measures taken in this regard; ensure all UNEP/MAP components operate as an integral part of the UNEP/MAP – Barcelona Convention and their work is entirely focused on implementing the Convention and the Protocols; ensure Contracting Parties play a full and active role in the MAP system; properly target dissemination of information to enhance implementation effectiveness and political visibility; and, be streamlined for effectiveness. While a first wave of implementation measures has been undertaken the overall governance objectives remains valid and requires further measures some of which will be the result of the Functional Review.