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Second Meeting of the Blue Plan
National Focal Points,

Cannes, 1 - 5 October 1979

REPORT OF THE SECOND MEETING OF THE BLUE PLAN NATIONAL FOCAL POINTS

Cannes, 1 - 5 October 1979

(1)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Pages
Corps du rapport	1 - 20
Annex I : List of documents	
Annex II : List of participants	
Annex III : Agenda	
Annex IV : Place and role of the Blue Plan within the Mediterranean Action Plan	
Annexe V : Subjects proposed for investigatory study in the first phase	
Annex VI : Proposal for a methodological approach	
Annex VII : Indicative profiles of the members of the Group of Co-ordination and Synthesis	
Annex VIII : Designated focal points fo the Blue Plan as at 28 August 1979	

objective of the Mediterranean Action Plan which was being implemented by UNEP with the support of the Mediterranean coastal States and the collaboration of the entire United Nations system, was to achieve a harmonious socio-economic development of the Mediterranean Basin while safeguarding its environment for the well-being of present and future generations.

6. Mr. de Linos drew attention to the objectives of the Second Meeting of the Blue Plan Focal Points, as defined by the Intergovernmental Review Meeting and First Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution, held in February 1979. In order that the first phase of the Blue Plan might be carried out as soon as possible, he requested the Meeting to take decisions on the following points:
 - a) the methodology to be followed, taking into consideration existing bodies of data available from the specialized agencies of the United Nations system, from national Governments and their agencies, and from other national or international organizations;
 - b) the description of the studies to be carried out in the first phase of the Blue Plan;
 - c) a definition of the role of UNEP and of the specialized agencies of the United Nations system, the Regional Activities Centre for the Blue Plan (RAC/BP), and of the focal points, as representatives of their respective Governments in organizing, supervising and co-ordinating the initial phase of the Blue Plan;
 - d) proposals concerned with certain financial and institutional arrangements related to the implementation of the Blue Plan, including contributions in kind and services from the Governments, the FEC and United Nations specialized agencies.

7. Mr. de Linos pointed out that under recommendation 16 of the Intergovernmental Review Meeting and First Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean, the Meeting of Focal Points was empowered to adopt, complete or modify the proposals submitted to it in order to facilitate the initiation of the first phase of the Blue Plan. He drew attention to the fact that proposals concerning several of the matters on which the Meeting was to take action were set out in documents submitted to the Meeting. A list of these documents is contained in annex I to this report.

Item 2 of the provisional agenda: Rules of procedure

The Meeting, having been convened by the Executive Director of UNEP at the request of the Contracting Parties, adopted, mutatis mutandis, the rules of procedure for meetings and conferences of the Contracting Parties contained in annex VII to document UNEP/IG.14/9.

Item 3 of the provisional agenda: Election of officers

9. The Meeting unanimously elected the following officers:

Chairman: Mr. Henri CREPIN-LEBLOND (France)
Conseiller des Affaires étrangères
Direction des Affaires économiques et
financières
Ministère des Affaires étrangères,
Quai d'Orsay
75007 Paris

First Vice-Chairman: Mr. Panagiotis LAGOS (Greece)
Scientific Collaborator, National Council
for Physical Planning and the Environment
Ministry of Co-ordination
Zalokosta 1
Athens

Second Vice-Chairman: Mrs. Zeineb BELKHIR (Tunisia)
Chef de Service
Ministère de l'agriculture
Rue Alain Savary
Tunis

Rapporteur: Mr. Adel HAMWI (Syrian Arab Republic)
Chairman of the National Oceanographic Committee
Supreme Council of Sciences
Damascus

Item 4 of the provisional agenda: Adoption of the agenda

10. The Meeting adopted the agenda which is reproduced in annex III to this report.

Agenda item 5: Organization of work

11. The Meeting decided to conduct its work in plenary meetings and in such ad hoc working groups as it deemed it necessary to establish.

Agenda item 6: Introduction of the main document prepared for the Meeting

12. The principal consultant, Mr. I.S. Abdalla (Egypt), who had been given the task of drawing up the main document prepared for the Meeting, was invited by the Chairman to introduce it. In his introduction, Mr. Abdalla drew attention to the important features of the document and thanked those who had collaborated in its preparation (see document UNEP/WG.29/3).

13. The Meeting congratulated Mr. Abdalla and his collaborators on the excellent work they had done and decided that Part I of the document dealing with "The place and role of the Blue Plan within the Mediterranean Action Plan" should be attached as an annex to the present Report (see annex IV).

Agenda item 7: Review of the proposals concerning the early
implementation of the first phase of the Blue Plan

14. The Meeting decided to base its work under this agenda item on the proposals made in the document entitled "Proposals for the early implementation of the first phase of the Blue Plan" (document UNEP/WG.29/3).

GENERAL CONCEPTION OF THE FIRST PHASE

Overall objective and methodological approach

15. The Meeting reaffirmed that the Blue Plan was not an academic exercise which aimed to describe the future on the basis of the present. Its object was to assist the coastal States in making the appropriate decisions for the protection of the environment, while taking fully into account the cultural and socio-economic development objectives adopted sovereignly by each State. The decisions and actions arising from the Plan must form coherent wholes for the protection of the Mediterranean Basin (the sea and the coastal areas taken as a whole or the land-marine system).
16. The Meeting considered it necessary, therefore, to stress and attach particular importance to the global and prospective approach based on the techniques of systems analysis, this approach being essential for an understanding of the genesis of disequilibria and for the assessment of the urgency of actions and their chance of success.
17. The Meeting considered it necessary always to bear in mind that the Blue Plan was "action-oriented" and that for its implementation it would be necessary to adopt a method of identifying and undertaking priority measures as the work proceeded and not only at its conclusion. It would also be necessary to take account of the effect of measures taken during the elaboration of the Blue Plan.

National and international aspects

18. The Meeting pointed out that, because of the physical setting selected (the Mediterranean ecosystem) and the institutional means of implementation adopted, the Blue Plan was an international activity. Accordingly, while the studies must reflect this international character of the Plan, they must be carried out in such a way as to permit decision-making by the Governments separately or jointly, according to the nature of the problems dealt with.

An open ended project

19. The information to be provided concerning the set of studies to be undertaken and the geographical boundaries of the region therefore had to be in fairly broad terms so as to permit expansion or limitation of the exercise while it was in progress in the light of comments or proposals made by individual experts or teams of experts, or during seminars that would take place during the work. Inputs from the other components of the MAP and the wishes expressed by the coastal States were other sources of suggestions for improvement.
20. The meetings of the Focal Points, in co-operation with the experts and the Group of Co-ordination and Synthesis, would be responsible for the refinement, the comprehensiveness and the relevance of the Blue Plan.

The three phases of the Blue Plan

21. The proposal that the entire Blue Plan should be implemented in three phases was approved by the Meeting:
 - a) The first phase would be devoted to the improvement of our knowledge of the present situation in the areas approved. National and international institutions, experts and research workers in all the countries should participate actively in this reconnaissance work.
 - b) During the second phase, the most critical issues revealed by the work undertaken in the first phase would be submitted to in-depth study and analysis and they would be linked together in a systematic perspective in order to reveal coherent trends, voluntary scenarios, and risks of discontinuity and disruption. This should yield a number of global studies on development trends in the light of which it would be possible to foresee the problems that might become critical during the coming four decades. Thus, actions and policies could be devised to avoid environmental degradation or to control it.
 - c) In the third phase, a synthesis paper would be prepared in order to elaborate conclusions and recommendations helpful to Governments in conducting environmentally-sound and sustained development.

THE WORK OF THE FIRST PHASE

22. In the Meeting's opinion, there was no need to stress the importance of a work of reconnaissance at the first phase of a project as vast in sectoral and geographical coverage as the Blue Plan. But this work did not imply the carrying out of extensive surveys. There was, in fact,

a host of available surveys covering entirely or partially many aspects of "environment and development" in the Mediterranean Basin. The reconnaissance activity was less extensive but more comprehensive. It is a process of identification, interpretation and analysis of interrelations.

The identification work concerns:

- a) Data: Singling out the principal sources of information. Here the most important sources are international organizations (UNESCO, FAO, WHO, ILO, UNCTAD, etc.) which regularly collect from member States comparable sets of information. They also carry out many surveys. Then come the regional organizations, which in some areas perform similar activities. There is no point in asking coastal States to provide once more what they have already given to intergovernmental bodies, since the Blue Plan team is supposed to have access to these sources. On the other hand, they will be called upon for other data published at home and covering some of the areas considered important for their development or going into more detail than required by the above-mentioned organizations. Moreover, data should be assessed from the points of view of accessibility, relevance and reliability.
- b) Research: requiring the necessary knowledge of the findings and conclusions of research projects related to the areas of interest for the Blue Plan carried out by governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations. Publications concerning research are available even for activities taking place outside the United Nations family, thanks mainly to the different regional associations of development institutes, etc. It is also desirable to be informed about ongoing research projects on environment and development. This will avoid duplication and alleviate the burden of the Blue Plan team who should concentrate on assessing findings and conclusions and undertaking what has not been done so far in a satisfactory way.
- c) Ideas and concepts: the relationships between development and environment is not entirely new in our region. Ideas and concepts concerning alternative development strategies and life styles in vogue in the international development community filtered into most countries. Of special importance in this respect are the recommendations of the series of original seminars sponsored by UNEP in co-operation with the United Nations Regional Economic Commissions. Ideas and concepts have to be collected, classified and assessed. States are, moreover, pursuing development and environmental protection policies based on concepts which it would be useful to explain more fully.

- d) Actions: survey and assessment of measures, already adopted or in preparation, with a view to securing a sound management of the environment in the region and an evaluation of their impact.

The interpretation work

23. The Meeting considered that, at the same time, some work should be carried out in order to interpret and complete the information gathered. In fact, none of the surveys, ideas and research projects had the same scope and purpose as the Blue Plan. Global figures have to be broken down in order to get Mediterranean ones. Retabulation and processing are unavoidable. Information made available by different surveys and research projects can lead to different conclusions more pertinent to the objective of the exercise. Last but not least, many blanks will appear and call for additional work, although there can, of course, be no question of achieving a fully exhaustive inventory.

The study of interrelations

24. Yet what remains the most important feature of this reconnaissance phase is the study of interrelations existing between all the elements of information gathered. Usually most surveys and studies are carried out either by sector or by country. The interrelations between the different sectors of life and between the various activities of man are scarcely submitted to thorough and comprehensive analysis. The right understanding of these interrelations is at the heart of the environment/development problem. These interrelations should be analysed at the level of the Mediterranean ecosystem as a whole and not only country by country.

The main results of the first phase

25. In the light of all the foregoing, the Meeting considered that the first phase should:
- a) lay the foundation of an expanding information system, global in sectoral coverage, but limited geographically to the Mediterranean Basin;
 - b) establish a network of national institutions to co-operate in the development of the Blue Plan and in its use by States;
 - c) assemble the documentation needed for the studies of the first phase and for the more detailed studies of the second phase;
 - d) prepare for the second phase work of ensuring consistency by highlighting, in order to facilitate analysis of the system and an overall view, the tendencies towards change, the grey areas, the risks of breakdown, and discontinuities due to new cultural, socio-economic or environmental policies;

- e) propose a preliminary definition of the environment/development problem in the region;
 - f) identify a first set of priority actions to be carried out before completion of the implementation of the Blue Plan.
26. The tasks to be accomplished in the first phase of the Blue Plan are interconnected and have to be carried out most of the time concomitantly with special emphasis on one or the other as the exercise as a whole advances.
27. The sources of information are in general either international and sectoral or national and geographically limited to individual countries at different degrees of comprehensiveness. Obviously, the compilation of information and its classification in such a way that it becomes more or less ready for immediate use should be the first task in the first phase of the Blue Plan. It is essentially desk work, provided of course that national and international organizations make available the data they are in possession of willingly and diligently. On the other hand, these data have to be processed in order to retain only those concerning the Mediterranean Basin and ensure the best possible coverage of the region in the most comprehensive manner. Access to computer facilities in the host country and in the United Nations system is indispensable. But the information gathering will not stop at this point. On the contrary, it has to be pursued up to the end of the first phase of the Blue Plan. As one can easily imagine, several blanks will appear, and many should be filled. On the other hand, the search for new data and up-dating exercises are continuous activities in the national and international organizations concerned. The Blue Plan does not need access only to existing stocks of data, but also to the flow of information from identified sources. The studies to be carried out during this first phase will produce feed-back information into a growing and strengthening system. The endeavour of analysis and reflection will need further processing, a certain number of projections and maybe also some model building. Its results will enrich the information system and make it more pertinent and more meaningful.

The originality of the studies and indications concerning the areas of work

28. As has already been stated, it does not make sense to duplicate qualified, specialized, research projects relevant to the Mediterranean and the activities taking place in or around the sea. On the contrary, the Blue Plan must profit from all previous or ongoing endeavours of the kind. What remains to be done is different because it calls for the combination of several elements rarely combined to date:
- Firstly, the areas to be selected are those identified as loci of complementarity or conflict between some development practices and the environment;

- Secondly, the studies should be dynamic in nature and take account of the most recent scientific and technological advances, as well as of tendencies towards change in these fields and tendencies towards change peculiar to each country, sub-region or region, on the basis of changes which have occurred in recent decades, the impact of political factors and national economic strategies and international geopolitical factors and the tendency towards change in these factors that can be discerned from the events of the past decade;
 - Thirdly, the studies are not envisaged as autonomous projects, but rather as parts of one body. Experts working on one area will be initiated into the whole exercise and the main features of all the other areas. In turn, they will be asked to pay special attention to elements detected in each area that have a bearing on other areas. Moreover, they will work simultaneously and keep contact with each other bilaterally or in organized meetings and seminars;
 - Fourthly, the experts will be asked to elaborate criteria for evaluation and priority setting and to identify accordingly a preliminary set of actions defined in an operational manner. The total sum of proposed actions for the different areas should be consistent and mutually reinforcing.
29. These studies will be useful both for the preparation of specific action and for ensuring progress, for the second phase of the Blue Plan, towards an over-all view of the Mediterranean Basin, in which the sea, the coastal areas and the hinterland are treated as a single system.
30. Some of the studies will be in the nature of surveys, while others will involve deeper research work. They are referred to in the present report in random order of importance and priority, as they will be carried out simultaneously by teams of experts at appropriate seminars.
31. These studies, which may be refined or supplemented as necessary by the GCS, in consultation with the Focal Points, will be diagonal or interconnected, the connexions being in the following dimensions: natural resources, production activities, development, space use, technologies, population, culture and environmental awareness of populations, life-styles and quality of life and intra- and extra-Mediterranean relations.
32. The indicative areas to be covered will be the following ^{1/}:
- land-marine systems and sub-systems;

^{1/} This classification should not be considered as having budgetary implications.

- water resources (surface and subterranean), competitive uses and human priorities, (satisfaction of drinking water requirements and use of water for food production);
 - agriculture and rural development, soil conservation, conservation of forests and landscapes, foodstuffs and food consumption;
 - industrial growth, industrial and services strategies in relation to the environment and life styles, and other resources of the subsoil;
 - new uses of old forms of energy and use of new forms of energy and mineral resources;
 - health, population and population movements;
 - space use, urbanization development of coastal areas and rural-urban balance;
 - tourism, space and environment;
 - transport and communications;
 - intra-Mediterranean and non-Mediterranean economic relations and their influence on each other;
 - cultural heritage and relations between the different cultures;
 - environmental awareness and scale of values.
33. The Meeting also recommended that the members of the Group of Co-ordination and Synthesis should use as a basis for their work the two documents annexed to the present report, namely:
- a) the points contained in annex I to the consultant's report (UNEP/WG.29/3), as amended by the Meeting and reproduced in annex V to this report;
 - b) the proposal of the delegation of Italy concerning a methodological approach to the studies as reproduced in annex VI to this report.
34. One of the main novelties in the Blue Plan is the so-called "binary principle" by virtue of which each study will be entrusted to two experts at the same time: one from the developed countries, and the other from the developing countries - belonging to the Mediterranean region, it goes without saying. In the first place, it is important, notwithstanding their nationality, that the two experts of the team have knowledge and experience beyond their respective countries and a certain familiarity with the problems related to development and environment in both industrialized and developing countries. Secondly, the two experts should

work in close contact and present a joint report or confront their reports in order to express distinctly the points they agree upon and the points of divergence and the extent of any disagreement. They should work in liaison with the international, national or non-governmental organizations which can be of assistance to them in accordance with the provisions of paragraphs 27 and 34 of the Report of the Intergovernmental Meeting of Mediterranean Coastal States on the Blue Plan, Split (Yugoslavia), 31 January - 4 February 1979 (document UNEP/IG.5/7).

35. The socio-economic aspects should be dealt with according to the principles of integrated planning. The data-gathering, the studies, the analysis and reflection, the formulation of a consistent set of recommendations for actions to be undertaken, all are aspects of a single exercise. This fact calls for the setting-up, before the work starts, of a nucleus of consultants that ensures the unity of the exercise up to the end of the first phase. This is what came to be called, after the elaboration of the Blue Plan document, the Group of Co-ordination and Synthesis (GCS). Here in fact, we have two distinct functions that will have better chances of success when performed by one organ. The first is the function of supervision similar to that entrusted usually to a research project director and a steering committee. The second function consists of substantive work, drawing on the knowledge and experience of the group.

Supervisory functions and substantive work of the GCS

a) Supervision of the whole exercise

36. The professional and scientific responsibility of conducting the Blue Plan is in the hands of the GCS. The "low key" denomination does not fully reflect all its heavy responsibilities nor the extent of its authority. Within its global mandate, it will inter alia:

- decide on the relevance and reliability of data and see to their meaningful use in the exercise;
- advise the Executive Director of UNEP in the selection of experts;
- organize seminars before and after each study and select the participants;
- keep in contact with each expert for follow-up and guidance;
- ensure the accomplishment of the first phase within the timetable decided upon with due assistance from the administration of the Blue Plan.

b) Substantive work

37. The GCS will have substantive tasks to accomplish, namely:
- to design and start the building-up of a network of information concerning environmental management in the Mediterranean Basin;

- to prepare the detailed terms of reference for the studies to be undertaken in the manner described above;
- to cover certain overall aspects of the problems that can be treated only in a partial manner in the studies: technological innovations, political sensitivities, common cultural heritage and diversities in the region, etc.;
- to see to the use of the methodologies of systems analysis and prospective approach in the exercise;
- to ensure a permanent dialogue with the experts and between them aimed at the strengthening of the multidisciplinary character of the exercise;
- to involve in the seminars some experts from outside the team carrying out the studies;
- to reflect constantly on the global character of the problem as the expert reports, findings and recommendations come in;
- to assemble, in the light of the synthesis it will reach, a first set of actions to be recommended, and to define areas for future studies;
- to prepare the report on the first phase of the Blue Plan.

Work organization and time-table

38. The Meeting considered that the first phase of the Blue Plan should be roughly divided into three periods: four months for data gathering, seven months for the studies and four months for the preparation and drafting of the final report, the GCS being at work from start to finish. This implies that all necessary financial and administrative arrangements are settled beforehand, so that the work can flow without exogenous obstacles. In order to initiate the work of the first phase the following steps should be taken beforehand:
- finalization of the contract with the host institution for the establishment of the Blue Plan Regional Activity Centre (BP/RAC);
 - transfer of funds to the BP/RAC;
 - appointment of the co-ordinator and the Members of the Group of Co-ordination and Synthesis.
39. On the basis of what is stated above, it is expected that the work of the first phase will take place according to the following schedule:
- a) From the first to the fourth month:
 - Data gathering and processing

- Finalization of the selection of study areas
- Recruitment of experts
- Preparation of the launching seminars

b) From the fourth to the eleventh month:

- Launching seminars
- Studies
- Confrontation seminars

c) From the eleventh to the fifteenth month:

- Synthesis of the inputs provided by the studies, the seminars and the work of the Group of Co-ordination and Synthesis
- Outlining of systems analysis and prospective
- Identification of a consistent set of actions
- Drafting of the report of the first phase

40. A progress report on the work of the first phase will be submitted to the Second Meeting of the Contracting Parties in February 1981.

INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

A light and specific structure

41. The Blue Plan is an action-oriented research project. Its comprehensive scope and international coverage do not affect its nature; they call only for light and flexible institutional arrangements to facilitate the flow of work and alleviate administrative and financial procedures. Furthermore, the Blue Plan is the major exercise in the environmental management component of the Mediterranean Action Plan. It does not stand by itself. Accordingly, it has to fit within the broader institutional framework of the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) and benefit from the facilities this framework provides.

The top authority

42. The UNEP Executive Director has been entrusted by the Mediterranean coastal States with the task of overseeing the implementation of the whole MAP. The Blue Plan being the major exercise in the environmental

management component of the MAP, it is quite natural that it will be placed under his supervision. He is responsible to the Governments for conducting the Blue Plan and will present its final report to the Intergovernmental Meeting together with his own comments. It is true that at Split, the Governments welcomed the offer of France to host the functional sub-unit of the Blue Plan which would be responsible for the technical implementation of this project under the over-all supervision of UNEP. The "Centre d'Activités Environnement-Développement en Méditerranée", MEDEAS, at Cannes, has been designated accordingly to serve as the Blue Plan Regional Activity Centre (BP/RAC). The UNEP Executive Director will commission MEDEAS to administer the project on the basis of a project document to be drawn up with MEDEAS.

The Executive Director of UNEP

The Executive Director will:

- appoint the Co-ordinator and the members of the Group of Co-ordination and Synthesis after examination of the candidatures submitted by the Governments of the Mediterranean countries and the European Economic Community;
- appoint the experts from the list of candidates proposed in accordance with the above procedure, after consultation with the Group of Co-ordination and Synthesis;
- authorize transfers of funds to MEDEAS;
- take appropriate action on matters that arise from progress reports transmitted to him from the GCS and reports on financial and administrative matters from the Administrator of MEDEAS;
- contact Governments of the Mediterranean countries and the European Economic Community whenever necessary.

MEDEAS

43. MEDEAS will be responsible, within this framework, for all the management activities required for the administrative execution of the project. The various management activities performed by MEDEAS will be carried out in accordance with the customary rules and will be subject to the control procedures in force in UNEP. Thus, while the GCS will be responsible for the professional and scientific substance of the project, MEDEAS will be responsible for all administrative and financial matters concerning the project. In other words, with delegation of authority by the Executive Director of UNEP, consultants' and experts' contracts, travel authorizations, communications etc. should be handled by MEDEAS in conformity with the usual rules and subject to auditing. This procedure is in line with the ideas the Executive Director of UNEP has expressed repeatedly concerning the role of UNEP as co-ordinator and catalyst.

The Group of Co-ordination and Synthesis (GCS)

44. The Meeting recommended that the Group of Co-ordination and Synthesis of the Blue Plan should be promptly established to undertake, as rapidly as possible, the studies and investigations of the first phase.
45. No effort should be spared in the search for the best possible composition, given the decisive role of the Group for the success of the whole exercise. This composition of the GCS should reflect the following characteristics:
- A very limited number of consultants, in order to enable it to become really a group of reflection and joint endeavour, and also with a view to reducing costs;
 - The consultants as a group should ensure the much needed multi-disciplinarity to the highest possible degree;
 - They should show proof of sound practical experience in addition to their academic qualifications;
 - As a general rule, they will be part-timers, since the amount of work they would have to do would not take up all their time during the whole of the first phase, while it might be useful for the Blue Plan itself if they continued some of their other activities;
 - They will not have the status of international civil servants or of MEDEAS employees, but that of advisers appointed by UNEP and, as such, hold a letter of appointment from the Executive Director;
 - The GCS will be chaired by an individual, acting in the capacity of co-ordinator, selected for his outstanding knowledge and experience;
 - Members of the GCS will keep in permanent contact with each other, arrange the time-table of their periodic or ad hoc meetings and organize the appropriate division of tasks.
46. In practice, the GCS can be effective with six members plus the Co-ordinator. In the composition of the GCS, a broad spectrum of knowledge and experience should take precedence over advanced specialization. Members of the group must show some understanding of issues relating to most areas under study, and not only that of their own particular academic specialization; otherwise it would be rather hard for the group to develop the common language necessary for a multidisciplinary and comprehensive approach. On the other hand, narrowly specialized studies are abundant; they will be surveyed and utilized. The study projects of the Blue Plan will provide a kind of bridge between professional specialities and the work of synthesis and prospective. Two shortcomings have to be carefully avoided. The first is to have a group of economists, even if they are "development economists". The second is to have people of identical background.

47. The desirable qualifications for the candidates nominated by Governments (the nominations, of which each country may submit as many as it deems fit, should be received by the Executive Director of UNEP before 31 December 1979) shall be as follows:
- a) a broad range of knowledge, rather than extensive specialization;
 - b) experience of the preparation of integrated planning studies;
 - c) ability to work in a multidisciplinary group;
 - d) a knowledge of systems analysis and a capacity to carry out future-oriented research;
 - e) ability to combine their knowledge with thinking concerning the natural and the man-made environment;
 - f) in order to ensure coverage within the GCS of most of the areas investigated by the experts, it would be desirable for the members of the Group to have knowledge and experience in one of the following indicative fields and of developments therein:
 - industrial policies and industrialization strategies;
 - land uses and uses of water;
 - demography, anthropology and sociology;
 - health and the environment;
 - scientific policy, technological research and transfer of technology;
 - raw materials, energy sources and systems;
 - regional economics;
 - territorial planning, town planning and tourism;
 - transport and communications;
 - g) the availability of the candidates shall be such as not to prejudice the scheduling and satisfactory execution of the project;
 - h) actual experience in more than one Mediterranean country and knowledge of two languages or more, used in the region would be a further advantage.
48. The meeting decided to place in an annex to the present report by way of indication a more detailed description of the qualifications recommended (annex VII to the present report).

49. The co-ordinator will act as chairman of the GCS, whose collegial structure shall always be maintained. He will be responsible for the activities of the GCS and the development of activities vis a vis the Executive Director of UNEP and report to him.
50. One of the members of the GCS should have special experience in the field of systems analysis and prospective studies and should, if possible, work on a full-time basis in the GCS. He may also act as executive secretary to the group and remain in close contact with the co-ordinator.
51. The other members are supposed to supply as many man-months (at Cannes, at home or in travelling) as the work might require. The GCS will decide collectively on the division of work among its members according to the needs of the exercise and the convenience of each member. It should be borne in mind that they are high-level consultants whose contribution can be secured only through flexible procedures.

The focal points

52. The Meeting considered the focal point as being, basically, the link between the country concerned and the Blue Plan. The Focal Points have three basic functions:
 - to provide a direct and rapid link between the Government of a country of the region and the executive institution of the Blue Plan;
 - to ensure that all competent governmental and non-governmental organizations of a Mediterranean country and any competent national experts of that country help in the collection of data and in the preparation of the studies carried out under the Blue Plan, by facilitating and ensuring frequent exchanges of information and opinions with the GCS during the course of the implementation of the Blue Plan;
 - to see that use is made of the recommendations, results and conclusions arising from the conduct and finalization of the Blue Plan.
53. The Focal Point should be integrated with or attached to a governmental agency, have access to all official sources of information and arrange effective links with governmental and non-governmental organizations, as well as with university, scientific, technical and economic circles in its country.
54. The focal Points are to contribute greatly to the good conduct of the Blue Plan. They have to be associated with every stage of the work. Their intervention will be most valuable in:

- identification of sources of information, surveys, research projects, debates and ideas, in particular those taking place in individual countries without much publicity abroad;
 - discussion of the areas selected for studies and co-operate with the GCS in defining the substantive and geographical coverage of each study;
 - providing advice on leading experts and institutions eligible for participation in the project;
 - commenting on the output of the studies;
 - contributing to the building-up of the information network.
55. The Meeting considered that, for financial and other reasons, full meetings of the Focal Points could not become a current practice. It felt, however, that at least two plenary meetings of the Focal Points should be held, one at mid-point in the exercise and the other to consider the preliminary draft of the final report.
56. The Blue Plan Focal Points should be closely associated otherwise than through full meetings. There should be continuous consultation between them and the GCS. They are invited to suggest, propose and provide data and ideas at any moment. All documents prepared in the framework of the project should be sent to them for comments and suggestions. The experts in charge of the studies may contact them whenever necessary. The Focal Points will participate in the seminars according to their interests and specializations. They may be invited individually, or by groups, for consultation on specific or subregional topics, etc. They are, moreover, expected to check information concerning their respective countries.

Location

57. The "Centre d'Activités Environnement-Développement en Méditerranée" (MEDEAS) has been designated as the Regional Activity Centre for the Blue Plan (RAC/BP). Once the appropriate project document between UNEP and MEDEAS is signed, it is essential to the accomplishment of the exercise that all the logistics of the Blue Plan be centred at Cannes. It is there that the meetings of the GCS should take place, as well as the working meetings unless the interest of the work makes it important to hold a meeting elsewhere.

INSTITUTIONAL LINKAGES

Within the framework of the MAP

58. Part and parcel of the body of activities of the Mediterranean Action Plan, the Blue Plan, through the Mediterranean Action Plan co-ordination unit, will be under the supervision of the Executive Director of UNEP who reports to the intergovernmental meetings and Meetings of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention, the decision-making authority that issues directives. On the other hand, it is essential to have a regular flow of

information between the environment assessment activities (the MED POL) and the Blue Plan. The Regional Centre for Priority Actions Programme (PAP/RAC) works on matters relating to environment management. This has led the last Intergovernmental Meeting to wish for the establishment of an organic link between the BP/RAC and the PAP/RAC. Such a link can be created by the invitation to a representative of each of the two RACs to attend the important meetings of the other. Meanwhile, the regular exchange of information, documentation and views is imperative.

With the United Nations specialized agencies

59. From the outset, the Blue Plan was conceived to make use of the work accomplished by the United Nations specialized agencies. The point has been clearly expressed in the the Split recommendations. Two practical issues have since been raised: first, in practice, the linkage can be made in an effective manner; second, what can be considered as contribution in kind by those agencies.
60. On the first point, the most operational way would be for the head of each agency to appoint one of his staff members as a liaison officer for the duration of the Blue Plan exercise (or at least its first phase). The liaison officer should attend the Blue Plan focal point meetings and regularly receive information and documentation for the GCS. He may be called for consultation and can advise on the selection of studies and choice of experts. To play a significant role, he should have access to all the divisions of his agency and the authority to provide the Blue Plan with data available at any of them even before these data are published. The specialized agencies will also be invited to participate in the seminars to which they could contribute with a view to establishing closer links between them and the GCS.
61. As for the contribution in kind, only services that can be calculated in man-month terms can fall under this heading. Already published or processed data which an agency possesses are for use by the public. Access to such data does not therefore constitute a contribution in kind unless it requires special processing for the purposes of the Blue Plan. In such a case the cost of additional manpower and other expenses are contributions in kind. The time devoted by the liaison officer to the work of the Blue Plan can also be accounted for. The same applies to computing or printing facilities, etc. Early decisions in this respect are essential, since the data-gathering component will depend heavily on the flow of information from these organizations.
62. The United Nations specialized agencies, and particularly those most directly concerned with the questions considered under the Blue Plan (e.g. UNESCO, FAO, WHO and ILO) might be invited to identify separately, from 1980 onwards, the work they have been doing for the Mediterranean region. The gathering and presentation of data might thus be facilitated. The Governments of the coastal States could usefully stress, in the governing bodies of the above-mentioned specialized agencies the importance they attach to have the Mediterranean region, as such, taken into consideration in the work of these agencies.

With the United Nations regional economic commissions

63. Besides the specialized agencies, there are three United Nations regional commissions that should take an interest and co-operate in the Blue Plan and more generally in the MAP. The Economic Commission for Europe has already shown interest. It is important to involve both the Economic Commission for Western Asia (ECWA) and the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA). Each Executive Secretary should be invited to appoint a liaison officer to co-operate in the implementation of the Blue Plan along the same lines as described for the specialized agencies.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION AND CO-OPERATION OUTSIDE THE UNITED NATIONS

Regional organizations

64. The Blue Plan can derive great benefit from the establishment of continuing contacts with appropriate organs of organizations (League of Arab States and Organization for African Unity, for example) which are carrying out related activities and may constitute sources of new information.^{1/}

Non-governmental international organizations

65. The Blue Plan might also, where necessary, call on such organizations for relevant information and views concerning its activities.

FINANCIAL AND BUDGETARY ASPECTS

66. The Meeting was given information concerning the financial implications of the implementation of the first phase of the Blue Plan under the budgetary appropriations approved for 1979 and 1980.
67. It was mentioned, in particular, that the funds available up to the end of 1980 might be sufficient for the Blue Plan activities, as currently anticipated, during the 12 months of 1980, but not for the first three months of 1981, during which period the budget for the years 1981 and 1982 would not have been approved yet, so that the Plan activities during those first three months might be halted as a result.
68. The Meeting considered that it would be most regrettable if the exercise, once initiated, were to be interrupted for lack of funds, and it drew the attention of the Executive Director of UNEP and of the Governments of the Mediterranean countries and the European Economic Community to the seriousness of the problem. Furthermore, the Meeting considered that the available information did not allow for making an evaluation and

^{1/} One delegation expressed reservations with

distribution of expenditures in the budgetary framework set by the intergovernmental meeting of February 1979. Consequently, the Meeting invited the Executive Director of UNEP to prepare documentation appropriate to the importance of those matters in consultation with MEDFAS and taking into consideration the proposals that the GCS would make, for the intergovernmental meeting of February 1980. The Meeting hoped that on the basis of that documentation, the intergovernmental meeting would examine the possibilities of a distribution of expenditures appropriate to the implementation of the Blue Plan.

69. While awaiting the financial decisions of the February 1980 meeting, the Meeting recommended caution with regard to the commitment of funds approved in February 1979 and which might be exhausted before the 1981-1982 budget was adopted.
70. Various delegations also pointed out that the costs of the studies could be reduced by calling for greater co-operation from the national bodies and international organizations concerned.

Agenda item 8: Other business

71. The Meeting did not deal with any matter under this agenda item.

Agenda item 9: Adoption of the Report

72. The meeting adopted its Report and invited the Executive Director to complete it in the working languages, to adjust the translation to confirm to the original text and, to introduce editorial changes which would not affect the substance.

Agenda item 10: Closure of the Meeting

73. Before the closure of the Meeting, the participants as well as the representative of the Executive Director expressed their gratitude to the Government of France for the hospitality which had been extended to the members of delegations, observers and members of the secretariat attending the Meeting.
74. The Meeting was closed by the Chairman on 5 October 1979 at 14 H 30.

ANNEX I
LIST OF DOCUMENTS

A. Working documents

- UNEP/WG.29/1 Provisional Agenda
- UNEP/WG.29/2 Annotated provisional agenda
- UNEP/WG.29/3 Proposals for the early implementation of the
first phase of the Blue Plan

B. Information documents

- UNEP/WG.29/INF.1/Rev.2 Provisional list of documents
- UNEP/WG.29/INF.2 Provisional list of participants
- UNEP/WG.29/INF.3 List of Focal Points for the Blue Plan
as of 28 August 1979
- UNEP/WG.29/INF.4 Priority Actions Programme - Information
paper
- UNEP/IG.5/7 Report of the Intergovernmental Meeting of
Mediterranean Coastal States on the Blue Plan,
Split, 31 January - 4 February 1977
- UNEP/IG.14/9 Report of the Intergovernmental review Meeting
of Mediterranean Coastal States and First
Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the
Convention for the protection of the
Mediterranean Sea against pollution and its
related protocols, Geneva, 5-10 February 1979
- UNEP/IG.14/INF.25 Information on the meeting of the Blue Plan
Focal Points, Geneva, 1-2 February 1979
- UNEP/WG.25/INF.5 and
Add.1 Draft outlines of surveys and project
proposals

ANNEX II

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ANNEX III
A G E N D A

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Rules of procedure
3. Election of officers
4. Adoption of the agenda
5. Organization of the work of the meeting
6. Introduction of the main document prepared for the meeting
7. Review of the proposals concerning the early implementation of the first phase of the Blue Plan
8. Other business
9. Adoption of the report
10. Closure of the meeting

ANNEX IV

PLACE AND ROLE OF THE BLUE PLAN WITHIN THE MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN

I THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC COMPONENT

1.1 The four components of the MAP

In order to be both global and operational, the Mediterranean Action Plan has four components:

- Environmental assessment
- Environmental management
- Legal framework
- Financial and institutional arrangements.

The first component covers the assessment of all factors contributing to the protection and development of the region. In this respect, the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention agreed "to establish..... programmes ... for pollution monitoring in the Mediterranean Sea Area and ... a pollution monitoring system for that area" (article 10) and "to develop and co-ordinate their national research programmes relating to all types of marine pollution in the Mediterranean Sea area and to co-operate in the establishment and implementation of regional and other international research programmes for the purpose of this Convention" (article 11). To carry out these provisions, the "Co-ordinated Mediterranean Pollution Monitoring and Research Programme" (MED POL) was established. Obviously, the data gathered and actions suggested within the MED POL project are valuable inputs to the Blue Plan. The same applies to any activity to be undertaken in the framework of the environmental assessment component of the MAP.

1.2 Long-term strategies for socio-economic development

Rejecting the conservationist approach to the environment, the MAP calls its second component "environmental management", admitting thereby that socio-economic development has to be pursued but with due attention to environmentally-sound management practices. Recognizing implicitly that many current practices are damaging to the environment, the MAP calls for "a co-ordinated programme of concerted activities, aimed at better utilization of resources in the interest

of the countries of the region and of their development, while being in accordance with sound long-term environmental management rules"a/. It is occasionally repeated in the MAP document that, given the interwoven relations of the various development activities, only an integrated planning exercise can be of use in this respect b/. Aware of the possible conflicts between some development activities and the environment, the Governments of the Coastal States of the Mediterranean declared themselves ready to make a joint and thorough study of any proposal aimed at reconciling the demands of development with the need to protect and improve the quality of the Mediterranean environment with a view to the optimal utilization of its resources c/.

1.2.1 Nature and content of the Blue Plan

The "Blue Plan" is the main study initiated within the socio-economic component of the MAP. It is an "integrated planning project in which Governments, United Nations agencies, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations co-operate" d/. The "Blue Plan for Actions in the Mediterranean" - to quote its full initial name - is an exercise in the integrated approach to the environment-development problems in the concrete context of a specific region and with a view to the elaboration of workable alternative solutions where needed. It is action-oriented because its objectives are:

- (a) to assist Governments to identify points of reinforcement or conflict between development activities and the environment;
- (b) to suggest, in the light of these interactions, alternative environmentally-sound development strategies to be followed in the future; and
- (c) to identify, in the meantime, specific actions to be taken immediately.

Needless to say, in order to meet these objectives adequately, it is essential to gather, complete and analyse all the relevant data concerning the present situation in the Mediterranean basin. The analysis should focus on the various interrelations existing between activities often viewed as independent. Thus it is bound to yield a set of actions to be taken without further delay. Yet the main task remains the scrutiny of the future evolution, the risks it might entail, and the devising of a series of alternative development strategies more compatible with a sound environmental management. Given the particular nature of the Blue Plan and its objectives, this exercise has been conceived as progressing through three phases. As it moves from one phase to the next, the focus will shift gradually from the acquisition of more knowledge to in-depth analysis leading to long-range policy options.

1.2.2 The methodology

The term "plan" is used simply to underline the importance of interrelations between different sectors of activity and different time horizons. Consequently, it should not lead to any confusion with planning exercises undertaken by individual countries. These are the attributes of national sovereignty; nobody is entitled to interfere in this area. The essence of the integrated planning component of the MAP is to assist national Governments in making their optimal choices through the improvement of the quantity and quality of information available to them and also by broadening the field of choice through the elaboration of possible alternatives. Nothing can better illustrate this essential difference than the methodology. The Blue Plan relies almost exclusively on the systems analysis (for the study of interrelations) and the prospective approach and alternative scenarios (for the future evolution). It does not need any of the conventional techniques and tools of national planning (models, input-output tables, national accounts, etc...). It might be of some interest to add a few words here on the prospective method, in view of the fact that it is not in of common use in non-French speaking countries e/. Roughly speaking, it is a method of apprehending the future in order to assist in present decision-making. Unlike futurology, the possible futures are explored in the light of the present system as it actually operates and not imagined on the basis of some hypothesis. Unlike forecasts based on econometric models, the prospective method gives greater emphasis to the qualitative aspects of the system. Furthermore, this method pays special attention to the identification of existing tendencies and trends, the evaluation of the various degrees of likelihood of change, of irreversibility of those tendencies, as well as the degree of adaptability of the system as whole. Thus, it allows for the elaboration of different scenarios: a scenario of continuity in the case of important invariants and minor adaptations, a scenario of disruption when the system cannot cope with some irreversible major changes, and an alternative scenario to avoid disruptions. All these scenarios contribute to the identification of actions to be taken at appropriate points of time to enhance the adaptability of the system and prevent possible disruption.

1.2.3 Elaboration and approval

The present Blue Plan document has a relatively long history. In April 1975, the UNEP Governing Council agreed to a French proposal on the preparation of a "Blue Book" about the long term evolution of the Mediterranean from the point of view of the relationship between environment and development. A first document, prepared in France, was then discussed with UNEP representatives in Geneva (July and September 1975). As the outcome of these discussions, an assignment was given to a French team to prepare a report that came to be known as the Blue Plan. The authors gathered a group of experts in Nice (December 1975) to review their work. The revised document, transmitted to UNEP in early 1976, was then submitted to two expert meetings organized by UNEP (Geneva, January and Paris, May 1976).

After these thorough preparations and revisions, an Intergovernmental Meeting of Mediterranean Coastal States was convened at Split, Yugoslavia, 31 January-4 February 1977, to consider the document. The Governments approved the Blue Plan and defined its objectives and the ways and means for its implementation, including its financial and institutional implications. The Split resolutions constitute the binding legal framework into which the detailed implementation measures have to fit f/.

1.3 Other activities within the environmental management component

1.3.1 The Priority Actions Programme (PAP)

In addition to the Blue Plan, the Split intergovernmental meeting adopted a "Priority Actions Programme" (PAP). The main objective of this programme is "the initiation of co-operative activities by the Coastal States of the Mediterranean region with respect to appropriate environmental management practices on the basis of available knowledge in selected priority areas" g/. According to the Split and consecutive decisions a clear distinction can be made between the Blue Plan and the PAP:

- the mandate of the Blue Plan is global and embraces the entire Mediterranean ecosystem, while PAP has to deal with specifically selected areas. The Blue Plan is the most comprehensive approach to the integration of socio-economic planning into the environmental management component of the MAP;
- the first phase of the Blue Plan has as its main objective, the acquisition of new and better knowledge through surveys, analyses and expertise, while the PAP will work on the basis of available knowledge;
- the Blue Plan will, in the course of its implementation, identify possible alternative actions and describe them, while the PAP has to initiate activities, that is to say, prepare in detail and start the implementation, including training and transfer of appropriate technology;
- the Blue Plan has to suggest alternative actions both for different coastal countries and for joint regional practices, while the PAP has to focus primarily on co-operative actions.

However, although distinct from each other in their scope and approach to the harmonizing of development and environment, the PAP and the Blue Plan are mutually reinforcing. Accrued and improved knowledge obtained by the Blue Plan can be taken into consideration as criteria for an evaluation and priority setting elaborated by the PAP as well as for the selection of new areas for priority actions. On the other hand, the analysis of the results of activities initiated by the PAP

can provide a good test for ideas and concepts under consideration among the Blue Plan experts, in particular from the point of view of feasibility and operationality. This follows also from the nature of the Blue Plan which involves a constant interplay between the elaboration of an explanatory outline and the indication of specific courses of action. The establishment of close links with the PAP is obviously necessary.

1.3.2 Other activities

In order to complete the picture of the environmental management component of the MAP, reference should be made to the following activities:

- In co-operation with UNESCO, FAO and IUCN, development of guidelines and technical principles for the selection, establishment and management of Mediterranean specially protected areas;
- Waste management, in co-operation with WHO;
- Comprehensive planning, in co-operation with the Yugoslav Government;
- Information exchange and training on urban environment pollution control in co-operation with the Government of Greece and WHO;
- Training seminars in environment management in co-operation with Governments (for instance Italy with regard to the Mediterranean Training Centre at Urbino) and international institutions.

II THE INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS OF THE MAP

The institutional problems that the implementation of the Blue Plan may raise should be resolved with due respect to the institutional arrangements approved by the Governments for all the parts of the Mediterranean Action Plan. Accordingly it is essential to recall these arrangements before turning to the concrete measures of implementation.

2.1 The Governments of the Coastal States

The MAP is a full set of activities calling for Governmental intervention and financing. Consequently, the decisions remain in the last resort in the hands of the National Governments exercising their full sovereignty. Most of the activities take place within national borders or under national flags. Measures of environmental assessment or environmental management are submitted to Governments for

consideration. Undoubtedly, environmental problems often transcend national borders and consequently necessitate consultation, exchange of information, co-ordination of policies and certain joint actions. This is the more true because the Mediterranean basin constitutes in fact an "ecological community". Yet the Coastal States did not decide on the establishment of any standing intergovernmental organization similar to those of the United Nations system or the non-United Nations regional organizations. They preferred to proceed by a Convention complemented by several protocols, and trusted the follow-up of the implementation of their agreement to a light and ad hoc structure.

2.2 The intergovernmental meetings

As has already been mentioned, the MAP was adopted by an intergovernmental meeting in 1975. This approval made it possible to prepare the legal instruments: the Barcelona Convention and the related protocols, which not only constitute the legal component of the MAP but also serve as the legal basis of the MAP in its entirety. Other meetings of the same kind were necessary to deal with the other components. Thus the Intergovernmental Meeting of Mediterranean Coastal States became the decision-making body of the MAP. Since the Convention entered into force, this body has become the Conference of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention which, until all Mediterranean States become parties to this Convention, is coupled with an intergovernmental meeting, as was the case in February 1979.

2.3 The Executive Director of UNEP

When the Intergovernmental Meeting of the Mediterranean Coastal States approved the MAP, the Governments asked the Executive Director of UNEP to oversee the implementation of the Action Plan. It was in this capacity, and as requested by Governments, that he convened the second Barcelona Meeting (1976) where the Convention and the protocols prepared by UNEP in co-operation with Governments, FAO and IMCO, were adopted. Again, the Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution designated UNEP for the execution of secretariat functions (article 13) and specified some of these functions, the most relevant of which to the subject of this document being:

"(vi) To ensure the necessary co-ordination with other international bodies which the Contracting Parties consider competent, and in particular to enter into such administrative arrangements as may be required for the effective discharge of the Secretariat functions".

Thus, it clearly appears that the UNEP Executive Director is empowered to ensure the overall supervision and co-ordination of all the components of the MAP and to decide on whatever administrative arrangements he deems appropriate for its implementation and follow-up. He reports to the Intergovernmental Meeting of the Mediterranean Coastal States and the Conference of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention. In accordance with the internal rules of UNEP and the decisions of its Governing Council, he decides on the ways of exercising his role mentioned above. In the Executive Director's Report to the Intergovernmental Review Meeting of Mediterranean Coastal States and First Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution and its related protocols ^{h/}, the role of co-ordinator is defined in clear-cut terms:

"Since the Executive Director is responsible to the Governments of the Mediterranean States, under the authority of the Governing Council of UNEP, for the development and implementation of the Mediterranean Action Plan, of which the Barcelona Convention and related protocols are an essential part and for which they will serve as the legal framework for future activities, it is the responsibility of the Executive Director to assure close co-ordination of all elements of the Action Plan in a manner responsive to the wishes of the Parties to the Convention."

Acting in this capacity, the Executive Director designates, to assist him, the necessary staff who are grouped in a small Mediterranean co-ordinating unit working under the supervision of UNEP's Regional Seas Programme Activity Centre (RS/PAC).

2.4 The Regional Activity Centres (RAC)

Besides the central Mediterranean co-ordinating unit linked to the Regional Seas Activity Programme, the Executive Director of UNEP approved the idea of establishing some regional activity centres whenever decentralization of some elements of the Action Plan is desirable, as in cases where immediate national support or a specific geographic location is prerequisite. A Regional Activity Centre can be an entirely new structure, as it is in the case of the Regional Oil Combating Centre in Malta. But it can also be a national institution which is strengthened to assume a regional role, as in the case of MEDEAS at Cannes for the Blue Plan, and the Split Centre for the Priority Actions Programme.

FOOT NOTES

- a/ Paragraph 1/3 of the Action Plan. See: Report of the Intergovernmental Meeting on the Protection of the Mediterranean, Barcelona, 28 January- 4 February 1975, UNEP/WG.2/5, annex.
- b/ See: Report of the Executive Director of UNEP on the Implementation of the MAP for the period 1975 until December 1978, UNEP/IG.14/4
- c/ Report of the Barcelona meeting, op. cit.
- e/ Report of the Executive Director of UNEP, op. cit., annex, p. 2.
- f/ Sometimes it is called in English, "future-oriented research".
- g/ Report of the Intergovernmental Meeting of Mediterranean Coastal States on the "Blue Plan", (Split, 31 January-4 February 1977), UNEP/IG.5/7.
- h/ Report of the Executive Director, op. cit, annex IV, p. 4.

ANNEXE V

SUBJECTS PROPOSED FOR INVESTIGATORY STUDY IN THE FIRST PHASE*

While it is necessary to have the Governments' approval for the study areas, it would run against the nature of the Blue Plan to describe them in detail and prepare the appropriate terms of reference for each study in consultation with the national focal points. This will take place during the period of four months devoted mainly to data gathering. The inflow of available data will enable the GCS to orient the studies more closely towards the relatively unexplored areas. Experts gathered in the launching seminars will contribute much to making the terms of reference more precise. Accordingly, this list of studies should be considered as preliminary.

From another point of view, it should be kept in mind that the studies are not sectoral, nor even cross-sectoral. They have a "diagonal" character, each one running along a given axis around which several different and often competitive activities are located in actual life.

Accordingly, the study areas will be identified, in random order of importance and priority, rather than fully described.

1. Land-marine systems and sub-systems

The identification and use of sea resources do not take place sporadically nor separately. In fact, each resource and its various uses are usually linked to some coastal settlement or function and thus form a system including, in many cases, sub-systems. This is obvious in the case of navigation, since marine transport is a system of harbours, ships, people and commodities, and sea routes, selected with a view to minimizing climatic and sea hazards. The same approach applies to fisheries and mineral resources, rivers-sea relations, etc... The main objective of the study is to show to what extent these systems are optional, conflicting or can be harmonized.

2. Water resources, competitive uses and human priorities

A great part of the Mediterranean Basin is arid or semi-arid. Elsewhere the precipitations are rarely abundant. Hence the need for a good survey of water resources and uses in the region. Among the competitive uses of these relatively limited resources, agriculture emerges as a major priority, mainly in order to secure food. Agricultural expansion calls for a survey of arable land. It often relies on irrigation. The impact of important irrigation projects on the environment has to be assessed in order to be minimized. Desertification has always been either a threat or a real calamity in this region. The study must deal with this issue too. The main objective here is to show how to introduce radical increases in agricultural production, while avoiding practices whose negative impact on the environment might compromise this growth in a few decades.

* The content of this annex is for guidance only

3. Industrial growth, industrialization strategies, and services related to the environment, and the utilization of sub-soil resources

This is an essential part of the consideration to be given to the development of the Mediterranean, including the development of the region's sub-soil resources. The following non-exhaustive list of aspects might receive particular attention:

- the present industrial geography of the Mediterranean Basin. Not as simple description but with a view to revealing the factors that have determined the kind of industries, the choice of technologies, the location of plants; and who took the decisions in all those respects, and to what extent the actors behaved in full awareness of the consequences of their decisions or by sheer inertia;
- the impact of existing industries on the environment, the analysis of externalities and their social costs in terms of resource use and of environment degradation;
- the untapped resources and why they have so far been neglected;
- the resources subject to competition between industry and other human activities, and the identification of points where threats to the environment require urgent action;
- trends of future evolution as they are explicated in industrial plans of the States and the enterprises, or as they can be deduced from previous evolution or the interplay of market forces; and the impact these trends might have on the environment;
- the role of industry in urban concentration and the issues of balanced regional (sub-national) development and the rational use of space;
- industrial labour and problems of employment and workers' migrations;
- types of industrial products and their impact on life styles and socio-cultural values;
- balances and imbalances between industrialization and rural development, etc.
- the study of new technologies and of changes in technology, with particular reference to "clean" technologies.

4. Energy, old and new

Any type of development requires the use of energy. In a situation of world energy crisis, it is necessary to see where the Mediterranean region stands. An inventory of available conventional sources is easy to establish. What is much more interesting is to examine alternative uses on the one hand, and to explore the potentialities of new sources of energy on the other. Special attention has to be paid to renewable sources and to sum up the state of the art in this respect. Also, the impact of the use of new sources of energy on technology, production and societal choices should be contemplated.

5. Health, population and population movements

This study should include population and health statistics; hazards and influence on health in the community environment as related to: urban and rural areas, climate, housing, water supplies, waste disposal, pollution, air pollution, pollution of the soil, food safety, sector control; accidents, health care. In addition, the influence of population movements (immigration of workers, pilgrimages, tourism, etc.) on health hazards for both the incoming population and the indigenous one should be given the importance it deserves considering the high and ever increasing number of moving population.

The study should not follow a sectoral approach but will consider the health problems in their holistic approach. Special attention should be given to development and co-ordination of epidemiological health surveillance in order to establish the relationship between environment and human health effects. Development of criteria, guides and codes of practices for known environmental influences on health relevant and applicable in the Mediterranean Countries should be promoted.

This study should also include global numbers, vital statistics, age pyramids, education, and professional occupations. It would reveal on the one hand the common features if any, and the classification of the region's population according to different relevant criteria. On the other hand, population both as a potential for development and as pressure on the environment is a central phenomenon for the whole exercise. The study should also address itself to population movements at three levels: within the individual countries, among Mediterranean countries and in-and-out of the region. This study will be of much help for the design of future co-operation among coastal states.

6. Space use, urbanization and rural development

Space is a resource in itself. Yet it is usually far from being optimally used within and among nations in any given region. The Mediterranean Basin is no exception. Imbalance between urban and rural development is a common feature in all Third World countries. Industrialized nations did not avoid striking discrepancies among the regions of the same country. Regional

development and regional planning are on the agenda everywhere. What is the situation in our region in this respect? In the meantime, urban centres, and in particular capital cities, are growing at high rates creating unmanageable problems for many municipal and national authorities. What is the situation and what solutions are proposed? On the other hand, rural-urban migration, unjustified by development requirements, contributes to the stagnation, if not the decline of the countryside. How can rural areas develop in a way that enhances the overall national development, raises the standard of living of the rural population and reduces the negative impact of poverty on the environment? The study would consequently deal with the issues of human settlements, the protection of historical sites and national parks, the regional (sub-national) planning for the location of different activities, etc.

7. Tourism, space use and the environment

In some respects, tourism falls under population movements, since they include temporary and seasonal displacement. But given the exceptionally great numbers of tourists in the Mediterranean, a study has to be devoted to this topic. Naturally, it will cover the numbers, the seasons, the countries of origin and the main areas attracting tourists so far. More important yet is the assessment of the impact of the global movement on the environment. The specific use of this "population" of tens of millions each year has to be analysed. The exact role of tourism in development must be examined, as should the tourist's attitude in the host region or country. Finally, alternative forms of tourism should be considered.

8. Intra-Mediterranean economic relations

This study is not a simple analysis of trade flows between the countries of the region: it would cover the whole set of economic exchanges. It will show the place of Mediterranean exchanges within world trade, their importance for the economy of each country, and the trends of the last three decades and the prospects. This of course, cannot be done regardless of the political aspects. States of the region belong to different groupings of countries. Very relevant to the exercise is the fact that some countries are members of the OECD (usually referred to collectively as the North) while many others are members of the Group of 77 (the so-called South). It would be quite an achievement if the study could find ways and means of furthering intra-Mediterranean co-operation. Thus, the Mediterranean, which has for hundreds of years been a link rather than a border, would provide a good example for North-South negotiations.

9. Transport and communications

Economic and cultural co-operation call for adequate systems of transportation and communication. The study would undertake a survey of existing systems, and assess their effectiveness. Projects under consideration or envisaged come under this study. Then the main objective will be how to improve means of transport and communication without serious threat to the environment.

10. Cultural heritage and cross-cultural relations

The unique character of the historical cultural heritage of the Mediterranean, often considered as the cradle of some of the world's greatest civilizations, is more often proudly mentioned than carefully preserved. This applies not only to physical sites and constructions but also to some life-styles and value systems, and even some art expressions. The study is aimed at pointing out the cultural features common to all or most Mediterranean people. At the same time, it would give equal importance to the distinctive cultural characteristics of various countries or groups of countries. More important is to throw light on the processes of cultural change taking place and how they are viewed by the people. Since the time of the preparation of the Stockholm Conference, it has been clearly stated that environment does not equate with nature; socio-cultural environment is important both for its own sake and for its bearings on nature.

11. Environmental awareness and value systems

The care about environment is not exclusively a matter for public authorities. If the people at large are not aware of the issue they might press the Government in favour of less environmentally-sound development options. Moreover, the day-to-day behaviour of the individual may endanger the environment as much as any polluting industry. Hence the crucial interest in raising the awareness of the public. The study has to survey and analyse the state of information on, and education in, environmental issues as well as non-governmental activities in the field of environmental protection. The influence of both great wealth and absolute poverty in this regard is of great importance. How people react to both contributes to the shaping of social attitudes and life-styles. Awareness of their environmental consequences might help in designing better development strategies. Like all the studies, this one should underline the existing trends and the merging tendencies, and suggest the ways and means of heightening public awareness.

12. Impact of non-Mediterranean influence on the Mediterranean Basin

The Mediterranean Basin is not under the full control of its inhabitants. Some of its resources are exploited by others (energy, the sea, minerals...). Fashions conceived elsewhere influence life-styles. Population movements deprive the region of a part of its human wealth (the "brain drain", for instance) and inflict on it the burden of tourism (despite the immediate economic returns)... It is out of the question to isolate the region from the outside world in an era of growing interdependence. But it would be useful to establish a kind of balance-sheet of all those relations and to show up inequalities and propose paths that might lead to more balanced relations, whenever necessary.

ANNEX VI

PROPOSAL FOR A METHODOLOGICAL APPROACH

All the studies relating to the first phase should have the interconnexion (diagonality) characteristics mentioned in paragraph 4.2.1 of document UNEP/WG.29/3.

For methodological and practical reasons, it will nevertheless be desirable to divide the studies into two categories:

- a) studies which clearly involve only data- and information-gathering;
- b) studies which, even in the first phase, will clearly involve work of greater complexity.

The studies in the first category may be termed "surveys"; those in the second category "research".

The category a) surveys should all cover the following aspects:

- impact of the phenomena dealt with in other surveys;
- socio-cultural aspects and the role of technological progress according to present trends;
- consequences of present trends for the environment;
- public awareness of these trends.

In the "research" type of studies (category b)), considerable importance must be attached to methodological criteria of globality as applied to the "systems" and "sub-systems", the "internal interrelationships" and the "external variables" of the basin considered. Such research should, in particular, establish a close link between the first phase (findings of the surveys (category a)) and the second phase.

Consequently, the experts who will have to carry out the research in the first phase will have to:

- elaborate the terms of reference received by the Group of Co-ordination and Synthesis so that the systems may be thoroughly analysed in the second phase;
- organize the findings of the "surveys" in the light of the criteria for the studies to be made in the second phase;

- examine and carry out a preliminary organization of the contributions which may be made for this purpose by current research and new ad hoc research undertaken by international organizations, in the light of the structure and resources of the coastal States and Contracting Parties.

On the basis of the foregoing, the group of studies to be undertaken might be defined in the following terms:

A. SURVEYS

1. Population and population movements
2. Industrial trends and strategies
3. Rural activities, water resources and their competitive uses
4. Urbanization and competitive uses of space
5. Tourism
6. Transport and communications
7. Raw materials and energy (in particular, resources of the sea and new forms of energy)
8. The natural and the historical heritage and cultural relations
9. Environmental influences on health

B. RESEARCH

10. Land-marine systems and sub-systems
11. Intra-Mediterranean economic relations
12. Non-Mediterranean economic influences on the Mediterranean Basin

This list is merely for guidance and has, in any event, no budgetary implications.

ANNEX VII

INDICATIVE PROFILES OF THE MEMBERS OF THE GROUP OF
CO-ORDINATION AND SYNTHESIS

- a) Industrial policies and industrialization strategies, including practice in the formulation of policies and strategies, choice of technology, plant location, intra-industry relations, as well as intersectoral relations. Such a background can be found in the higher levels of Ministries of Industry, international organizations and good consultant firms. Preference should go to those who can also offer some knowledge of mineral resources and energy. Industry is a major component of modern development and its bearings on the environment are the most feared.
- b) Land and water use or agriculturist very familiar with irrigation problems, or again, an hydraulic engineer very familiar with agriculture. Practical experience in rural and/or regional development (including land reclamation) will be most welcome. This combination is justified by the fact that agriculture in many Mediterranean countries makes a very considerable demand on water resources, and at the same time, it is the vital sector for the solution of the food problem. Furthermore, major irrigation projects and some agricultural practices have serious environmental consequences.
- c) Environmental health including demography and population statistics. Experience in health problems deriving from the community environment, including the effects on health of toxic chemicals, as well as biological and physical factors. Familiarity with the health hazards associated with population movements. Development of criteria, guides and codes of practice relating to known environmental influence on health is extremely important as are also the development and co-ordination of epidemiological health surveillance in order to establish the relationship between environment and human health.
- d) Sociology, urbanization and space use. Experience in the field of population movements and factors behind them would be an additional asset. Migrations to and from the region, and from rural areas to urban centres, as well as the growth of urban areas, have repercussions on the environment. Further more, social attitudes, value systems, ways of life and habitat are related to the subject matter.

- e) Science policy and technological research, preferably including some interest in education. Obviously, the quest for alternatives presupposes the ability to assess technologies and the awareness of the delicate and intricate problems of designing a policy for science, technology and education. Out of inertia, people tend to take current practices for granted, and in all areas of study as well as for the synthesis, the GCS will now and again need to question many of these practices and look for possible alternatives. Hence the central role of this consultant.
- f) Cross-cultural relations with a special interest in tourism and preferably also in workers' migrations (including "brain drain"). The central idea here is to analyse the dynamics of styles of life and their impact on development choices as well as on the physical and cultural environment. A knowledge of the basic notions of the economics and sociology of tourism can be an additional qualification.
- g) Econometrics mathematical techniques, with experience of systems analysis and prospective studies. This consultant will work very intensively during the data-gathering period. Then he will continue the building-up of the information system, assist the experts, and check the mathematics of the reports, pull together data from the twelve studies, and carry on the econometric and mathematical work of the group. He has to be familiar with the computing facilities available to the group, as well as with the United Nations data system in Geneva.
- h) By its very nature, transport constitutes a sphere which may be regarded as a system involving the entire Mediterranean Basin and determining land-marine relationships, account being taken also of air transport and submarine transport. Furthermore, the most recent trends show that it is a sphere in which technological advances may well take place, particularly with respect to long-haul high-volume transport. The necessary study of the traffic-generating "sources" and of the "source-destination" relationships for goods, particularly with respect to specialized transport networks that are multimodal and spatially interconnected, will call for a very high capacity for evaluating criteria for the development of coastal areas and the establishment of traffic basins; such criteria can make a very important contribution to the shaping of the Blue Plan context. Accordingly, the expert in this field must also have an adequate knowledge of regional economic programming and territorial planning.
- i) The formulation of economic development prospects cannot be confined to the general features of the major parameters (e.g. income, employment). It also calls for careful examination of regional aspects. Evaluation of the various "balances", which is an increasingly important feature of the theory and practice of economic development, is becoming of greater importance in the Mediterranean Basin which, although a unitary system, is formed of a number of different interrelated sub-systems. The expert in this field will therefore have to be capable of considering the "regional accounts" and the internal and external variables of regional economic development, as well as the factors contributing to "homogeneity" and

"polarization" of the economic space. Rather than having a sectoral training he must be capable of relating the production processes (agricultural, industrial, touristics and tertiary) at the regional and interregional levels, taking into account "land-marine" economic relationships. According to the profiles indicated, the experts will also have to have a knowledge of territorial planning methods and environmental economics.

- j) Interrelated consideration of the reports of sectoral experts will be especially effective if the Group of Co-ordination and Synthesis includes a member acquainted with the planning and management of large natural and man-made environments. While there will be no requirement to go into the problems of urban development at the district or sub-unit level, it would nevertheless be useful for this planner to have a knowledge of the relationships between urban centres and the environment (drainage and sanitation, land use, etc.), and between the urban centre and rural space. The territorial planner should have practical experience of the problems arising at the different levels of planning (international, national and regional).
- k) A thorough knowledge of energy systems and of the preparation of alternative energy strategies is extremely important both for scientific and applied research. An understanding of the possible environmental implications of the different possible energy systems, uses and sources is also needed. The expert should also have experience in the field of economic strategies and social pressures in favour of energy consumption, and of the use, for production purposes, of technologies that consume little energy.

ANNEX VIII

DESIGNATED FOCAL POINTS FOR THE BLUE PLAN AS OF 28 AUGUST 1979*

POINTS FOCALUX DESIGNES POUR LE PLAN BLEU AU 28 AOUT 1979*

CYPRUS
CHYPRE

His Excellency
The Minister for Foreign Affairs
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
NICOSIA

EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY
COMMUNAUTE ECONOMIQUE EUROPEENNE

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* By countries in English alphabetical order
Par pays et par ordre alphabétique en anglais

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Republički Sekretarijat za Urbanizam
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Marulićev Trg 16
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* * *

MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN FOCAL POINTS USED FOR STATES
WHERE NO BLUE PLAN FOCAL POINT HAS BEEN DESIGNATED

POINTS FOCALUX DU PLAN D'ACTION POUR LA MEDITERRANEE UTILISES POUR LES
PAYS QUI N'ONT PAS DESIGNE LEUR POINT FOCAL POUR LE PLAN BLEU

ALBANIA
ALBANIE

Son Excellence
Le Ministre des Affaires étrangères
Ministère des Affaires étrangères
TIRANA

ALGERIA
ALGERIE

Son Excellence
Le Ministre des Affaires étrangères
Ministère des Affaires étrangères
ALGER

EGYPT
EGYPTE

His Excellency
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Ministry of Foreign Affairs
CAIRO

LEBANON
LIBAN

Son Excellence
Le Ministre des Affaires étrangères
et des Libanais d'outremer
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The Minister for Foreign Affairs
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
DAMASCUS