



# United Nations Environment Programme



Distr.
RESTRICTED

UNEP/IG.36/3
7 december 1981

Original: ENGLISH

Extraordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the protection of the Mediterranean Sea against pollution

Athens, 29 March - 1 April 1982

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN IN 1981

#### I. Introduction

- 1. The year 1981 has been a period of further consolidation of the Mediterranean Action Plan as witnessed by a few significant developments. The number of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention and related protocols has continued to grow. The Long-term Honitoring and Research Programme (Med Pol Phase 2) has been approved and launched, the Working Group on Scientific and Technical Co-operation has been established and has held its first meeting. Voluntary contributions from the Contracting Parties have passed the 4 million dollars mark. The decision on the permanent location of the Co-ordinating Unit in Athens has been reached by a unanimous vote.
- 2. These achievements have been partly obscured by the chronic financial difficulties of the Trust Fund. As a result, the 1981 programme could not be carried out as approved by the Second Meeting of Contracting Parties.
- 3. In view of the specific objectives and limited duration of the Extraordinary Meeting, the present report aims at providing sufficient information to enable the meeting to reach agreement on the 1982 and 1983 budgets. The present report covers the period up to 30 November 1981. It will be supplemented by the opening statement of the Executive Director.
- II. Framework Convention and related Protocols
- 4. All Mediterranean coastal States, with the exception of Albania, and the European Economic Community are now Contracting Parties to the Convention. The European Economic Community has approved the Protocol on Co-operation in cases of emergencies. The status of ratifications and approvals appears in annex I.

- 5. Forms for reporting under the Protocol on dumping have been distributed. Two reports on permits issued were received before such distribution. One country submitted a report concerning dumping in case of force majeure, which was circulated by the secretariat.
- 6. The secretariat was informed that one country could be expected to sign the Protocol on Land-based sources in the near future while another country had started internal procedures for approval. The secretariat has invited all Contracting Parties to sign and ratify the Protocol. Information on the latest position in each country could be usefully provided to the Meeting.
- 7. The draft protocol on Specially Protected Areas in the Mediterranean is being submitted to the Extraordinary Meeting which will submit a final text to the Conference of Plenipotentiaries, as recommended by the Second meeting of Contracting Parties.
- 8. The texts of sub-regional agreements concerning the protection of the Adriatic and of the Ligurian sea, received from the depositary States, were circulated by the secretariat.

#### III - Pollution monitoring and research

- 9. The pilot phase of the Mediterranean Pollution Monitoring and Research Programme (MED PUL PHASE I) came to an end in 1980. The entering into force of the Convention had given full responsibility of the monitoring activities to the Contracting Parties. The following three meetings held during 1981 represented a turning point for the environmental assessment component of the Mediterranean Action Plan:
  - In January 1981 the Co-ordinating Unit for the Mediterranean Action Plan convened in Geneva, in collaboration with the Co-operating United Nations Agencies (FAO,WHO,UNESCO,IOC,WMO,IAEA) a meeting of Experts to Evaluate the Pilot Phase of the Mediterranean Pollution Monitoring and Research Programme (MED POL PHASE I) and to develop a Long-Term Monitoring and Research Programme (MED POL PHASE II). At this meeting, the first draft of the MED POL PHASE II programme was presented and discussed. Provisional final scientific and administrative reports on MED POL PHASE I were also presented and its achievements assessed by the meeting.
  - ii) In March 1981, at the Second Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention held in Cannes, the results and the recommendations of the Geneva Expert Meeting were presented. As a result, the Contracting Parties adopted the Long-term Mediterranean Pollution Monitoring and Research Programme (MED POL PHASE II). The programme included plans for the monitoring of the sources of pollution, of the coastal and reference areas and of the transport of pollutants through the atmosphere, as well as an outline of twelve research and study topics which should give scientific support to the monitoring activities. Both the monitoring and research activities were to be developed by Mediterranean institutions.

- iii) In September 1981, the First Meeting of the Working Group for Scientific and Technical Co-operation (WGSTC), a standing mechanism established to provide the MAP Co-ordinating Unit with advice on technical and policy matters related to MED POL, was convened in Athens. The meeting was attended by 10 National Co-ordinators for MED POL, two governmental experts and other scientists from Mediterranean Coastal States, invited by UNEP in their personal capacity. The Group reviewed the basic criteria proposed by the MAP Co-ordinating Unit, in collaboration with the Co-operating Agencies, for the implementation of the National Monitoring Programmes and the Development of the Research Activities. The Group provided the MED UNIT with the necessary guidance for the launching of the MED POL PHASE II activities.
- Iû. In order to complete the MED POL PHASE I activities and as a follow-up to the various recommendations and decisions of these meetings, the following actions were taken:
  - The work on the Environmental Quality Criteria (i) · continued: a first draft of the Mediterranean Environmental Quality Criteria prepared by the MAP Co-ordinating Unit in close collaboration with WHO and FAO was presented at the Cannes meeting and comments of the Contracting Parties on the subject were solicited. Comments and remarks of governments and scientists were collected and analysed and a new draft document was prepared. following a WHO/FAO Consultation on the subject held in Geneva in August 1981, and presented at the Athens meeting. The WGSTC recommended that the MAP Co-ordinating Unit prepare an improved version of the document (UNEP/WG.62/5) to be sent to the Contracting Parties through the National Co-ordinators for MED POL asking for their comments which would be taken into account for their submission to the next Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties.
  - (ii) The work on the Reference Methods for Pollution Studies in the Mediterranean continued and the first draft circulated in June 1980 containing eight Reference Methods was revised and presented at the Athens meeting. As in the previous case, the WGSTC recommended that further work should be carried out before the document (UNEP/WG.62/6) could be sent to the Contracting Parties through the National Co-ordinators for MED POl. Work on the finalization of some of the Reference Methods is continuing and after their circulation to the Contracting Parties asking for their comments, they will be proposed to the Third Meeting of the Contracting Parties for adoption.
  - (iii) Extensive work on the evaluation of MED POL PHASE I was accomplished by the MAP Co-ordinating Unit in close collaboration with the Co-operating Agencies, and as a result, the Programme Description, the Final Report and the Scientific Reports of the Participants were finalized.

- (iv) Following the recommendations of the Athens meeting, the MAP Co-ordinating Unit has requested the National Co-ordinators for MED POL to prepare detailed National Monitoring Programmes which will be attached as Technical Annexes to bilateral agreements to be established between each Contracting Party and UNEP. The monitoring activities covered by these National Monitoring Programmes should begin as soon as the technical capabilities of the Contracting Parties allow their programmes to be implemented.
- (v) Also following the recommendations of the Athens meeting, the MAP Co-ordinating Unit has circulated to the National Co-ordinators for MED POL and the scientists that collaborated in the pilot phase of MED POL, a request for research proposals (UNEP/WG.62/4/Rev.1) following the lines (A to L) established by the Geneva and Cannes meetings, before 15 January 1982 (except for activities B, C and E which might be submitted before the end of June 1982). The research proposals approved and those offered as contributions by the Contracting Parties should be initiated as funds become available.
- (vi) The work on the processing and the analysis of the scientific data obtained by the institutes participating in MED PUL PHASE I started in close collaboration with the Co-operating Agencies. Since the Data Processor was appointed, this preliminary analysis is being further elaborated and at the same time the data base for the processing of the more numerous and complex monitoring data which will come from MED POL PHASE II is being prepared at the MED UNIT.
- 11. Following the recommendation of the Cannes meeting, the MAP Co-ordinating Unit recruited the Senior Marine Scientist (July 1981) as well as the Data Processor (September 1981), after the First Meeting of the Contracting Parties (Geneva, 1979) approved the staffing of the Unit.
- 12. The following documents and technical publications were prepared or are being prepared by the MAP Co-ordinating Unit in collaboration with the Co-operating Agencies:
  - (i) Selected Bibliography on the Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea. UNEP 1981.
  - (ii) FAO/UNEP Manual on Selected Bioassays for the Mediterranean Sea. FAO 1981.
  - (iii) FAO/UNEP Manual on Ecological Assessment of Pollution Effects. FAO 1981.
  - (iv) Programme Description of MED POL PHASE I. UNEP 1982. (in preparation).

- (v) Final Report of MED POL PHASE I. UNEP 1982. (in preparation).
- (vi) Scientific Reports of the Participants in MED POL -PHASE I. UNEP 1982. (in preparation).
- (vii) Report on the State of Pollution in the Mediterranean Sea. UNEP 1982. (in preparation).
- (viii) Mediterranean Environmental Quality Criteria (UNEP/WG.62/5/Rev.1).
- (ix) Reference Methods for Pollution Studies in the Mediterranean. (UNEP/WG.62/6/Rev.1).
- (x) Basic Principles for the Implementation of the National Monitoring Programmes. (UNEP/WG.62/3/Rev.1).
- (xi) Basic Criteria for the Development of Research Activities. (UNEP/WG.62/4/Rev.1).
- (xii) Directory of Mediterranean Marine Research Centres. UNEP 1982. (in preparation).

# IV - Regional Oil Combating Centre, Malta

- 13. The third communications exercise was held on 18 May 1981. Assistance was provided to Tunisia in connexion with loss of containers from a ship; and to Morocco for the national contingency plan. The centre participated in Infopol 1981 (11 to 29 May 1981). Five participants from Cyprus, Israel, Malta, Tunisia and Turkey received a fellowship from the Centre. A lecture on contingency planning was given and an exhibition on the Centre was presented. Arrangement for a training course (Medipol 81) were made with the Marseilles Port Authority.
- 14. The Director General of IMCO visited the Centre on 25 April 1981. The director visited France, Algeria, Greece, Morocco in connexion with the work of the Centre. Additional visits are planned.
- 15. In view of the financial situation the post of technical expert approved at Cannes could not be filled on a full-time basis. An effort has been made to locate a part-time expert.
- 16. The Centre has distributed ROCC news numbers 5/6 in May 1981. Between March and September 1981 circulars No. 41 through 49 were disseminated.

The following documents were produced:

- Telecommunications exercise No. 3 Partial report on the Mahgreb countries; French/English report.
- The use of dispersants on sandy beaches an overview of the information available at the Centre.
- V Training and exchange of information
- 17. A programme of training courses was submitted by the Urbino Centre. Negotiations with the Italian authorities with the view to their financial participation in the programme, were delayed for lack of resources in in the Trust Fund.
- VI Environmental Hanagement
- a) The Blue Plan.
- 18. The following activities have been carried out:
  - The Focal Points of the Blue Plan met on 3-4 April 1981 and approved the programme of work for 1981-1982.
  - The Group of Co-ordination and Synthesis held five meetings between January and November 1981.
  - The President or the Bureau and the Executive Director have approached the Egyptian authorities in connexion with the situation of the Co-ordinator of the Blue Plan, Mr. Ismail Sabri Abdalla.
  - organization of four preliminary and four "confrontation" seminars in France and three in host countries (Tunisia, Greece) and possibly two or three more before 1982;
  - six provisional reports and four final reports (out of twelve)
     will be presented before 1982.
- 19. France has continued to provide, through Medeas, valuable administrative and logistic support to the Blue Plan. Tunisia and Greece have also contributed additional resources by hosting one and two seminars, respectively.

- b) The Priority Actions Programme
- 20. The activities of the PAP Regional Activity Centre at Split have been seriously affected because the financial support foreseen in the MAP budget could not be provided.
- 21. The funding for regional projects in aquaculture and in renewable sources of energy has been further delayed by the postponement of the meeting of Arab countries which will decide the use of their regional IPF. Meanwhile, UNDP is negotiating with possible sources of complementary funding. Those Contracting Parties that are in a position to do so should consider supporting financially the two projects.
- 22. Programming in the field of human settlements was completed with the assistance of WHO, ILO, UNESCO, UN/DICD, but no activities could be started in either human settlements, water, tourism or soils for lack of financial resources.
- 23. A programme based on a modest financial level was agreed upon in November 1981 at a meeting with the Yugoslav authorities. The latter pledged their continued support for PAP activities and for the Centre. The report of the consultation is found in document UNEP/IG.36/INF. 3.

# VII - Specially Protected Areas

24. The secretariat has been in touch with Tunisian authorities concerning the establishment of a centre for Specially Protected Areas. Expert advice is being supplied through IUCN, with a view to the creation of a national centre having a regional role and to develop its work programme. The start of this new activity has also been delayed by lack of resources.

VIII - Institutional and financial arrangements

The Bureau.

25. The Bureau met on 23 September 1981 in Athens to review the implementation of the work programme and advise the secretariat with regard to the serious financial situation facing the Action Plan. Its report is found in document UNEP/IG.36/INF. 4. The Bureau recommended that approval be obtained from the Contracting Parties for negotiating an advance of funds with a Greek bank. The secretariat is awaiting the replies to its letter of 28 October 1981 not later than 30 November 1981. The following countries replied in writing: Algeria, Italy, Malta, Turkey in favour; Israel, Spain not in favour.

## The Co-ordinating Unit

26. The posts of Senior Marine Scientist was filled by Mr. Antonio Cruzado (Spain) on 6 July 1981. Recruitment of the Data Processor, Ms. Gül Yilmaz (Turkey) was delayed until the meeting of the Working Group on Scientific and Technical Co-operation. The post was filled on 4 October 1981. The post of programme officer (economist) has been kept vacant in order to limit expenditures for co-ordination.

27. The list of meetings organized in 1981 appears in annex II.

## Transfer of the Unit

- 23. The draft Headquarters agreement presented in document UNEP/IG.23/7 was found acceptable by the second meeting of Contracting Parties. The text was finalized and submitted to the Greek Government by letter dated 4 June 1981. It was subsequently reviewed with Greek authorities in Athens (22-25 June 1981). As a result, certain proposals for amendment were submitted to the office of the Legal Counsel of the United Nations.
- 29. The final draft of the Agreement between the Hellenic Republic and the United Nations regarding the headquarters of the Co-ordinating Unit for the Mediterranean Action Plan at Athens was submitted to the Government of Greece on 24 September 1981. The actual date of the transfer of the Unit to Athens will be decided as soon as the Agreement is signed, the special contribution in drachmas is made available, and the office space that had been offered as the seat of the Unit is placed at the disposal of UNEP so that the required furnishings and communication facilities may be installed. The secretariat has kept closely in touch with the Greek authorities on this matter.

#### Financial Matters

30. The 1981-82 budget approved by the Second Meeting of Contracting Parties assumed that all contributions due for 1979-80-81 would be paid in 1981. By November, \$ 879,930.68 were outstanding. Furthermore, the budget estimates included \$ 500,000 from UNEP. The Fund of UNEP contributed \$ 285,000, close to the Executive Director's pledge of \$ 300,000 made at Cannes, but could not exceed it. Thirdly, only \$ 95,575 of 1982 contributions were received, so that the necessary forward commitments for 1982 were made with 1981 funds. The status of contributions is shown in annex III. As a result, the secretariat maintained commitments at a lower level than authorized, concentrated on on-going activities and essential services. The status of commitments by year and by budget chapter is shown in annex IV.

## 31. The financial situation at the end of November 1981 is as follows:

Contribution rece	ived: 79-80 81-82	\$	3,201,914.00 1,134,523.00
Interest credited	: 1980-81 (at 31.7.81) 1979 Bank gain	i.	366,801.18 122,280.00 16.00
A. TOTAL INCOME	•		4,825,534.00
B. Allocations	issued by Executive Director		4,920,000.00
C. (i) Project	commitments		4,261,955.00
D. Expenditures	recorded: 1/		
	1979 1980 1981		321,006.00 1,412,932.00 376,399.00 2,110,337.00
E. Overheads:	13% of expenditures recorded 1/	•	274,344.00
F. Overheads:	13% of proposed commitments		554,054.00
G. (C + F)			4,816,009.00
H. (A - G) Fun	ds available		У,525.18 =======

<sup>1/</sup> 1931 Expenditures as reported by Agencies/Supporting Organizations as at 30.6.01.

MINEX 1

of the Convention for the protection of the Nediterranean Sea against pollution and its related Prococols Status as at 3d Jctober 1901

	Convention	ion	Dumping	9 1/	Emergency 2/	y 2/	Land-Based Sources	urces 3/
	Signature	Ratification	Signature	Ratification	Signature	Ratification	Signature	Ratification
	,							
Albania	,	;	ţ	;	;	ŗ	;	1
Alneria	{	15 Mar 81 5/	ļ.	16 Mar 81 5/	;	16 Mar 81 5/	1	1 1
Cvorus	16 Feb 76	Nov 79	16 Feb 76	19 Nov 79	16 Feb 76	Vov 79	17 May 81	t 1
Fornt		78	16 Feb 76		16 Feb 76		1	į T
France 4/	Feb	Mar	16 Feb 76	11 Mar 78 6/	16 Feb 76		17 May 81	
Greece	Feb	73	11 Feb 77	3 Jan 79	15 Feb 76	3 Jan 79	17 May 81	ŧ
Israel	Feb	3 Har 78	16 Feb 76	!	15 Feb 76	3 Mar 78	18 May 81	1
Italv	Feb		16 Feb 76	3 Feb 79	16 Feb 76	3 Feb 79	May	;
Lebanon	Feb		16 Feb 76	8 Nov 77 5/	16 Feb 76	8 Nov 77 5/	May	
Libva	Jan	19	31 Jan 77	31 Jan 79 <sup>—</sup>	31 Jan 77	31. Jan 79	Мау	:
Malta	16 Feb 76		16 Feb 76	30 Dec 77	16 Feb 76	Эec	Мау	<b>!</b>
Monaco	Feb	20 Sep 77	16 Feb 76	20 Sep 77	Feb	Sep		ţ
Morocco		15 Jan 80	16 Feb 76	15 Jan 80	16 Feb 76	Jan		1
Spain	Feb		16 Feb 76	17 Dec 76	16 Feb 76	Dec	17 May 81	1
Svria	1		/	26 Dec 78 5/	!	26 Dec 78 5/	;	ı
Junisia	25 May 76	Jul 77	25 May 76	30 Jul 71	25 May 76	30 Jul 77	17 May 81	*
Turkey		6 Apr 81	16 Feb 76	6 Apr dl	16 Apr 76	6 Apr 81	!	!
Yuqoslavia	15 Sep 76	13 Jan 78	15 Sep 76	13 Jan 78	Sep	13 Jan 78	I 1	;
EEC		16 Mar 78 6/	15 Sep 76	16 Mar 78 <u>6</u> /	13 Sep .76	12 Aug 81 <u>6</u> /	17 May 81	!

The Protocol concerning co-operation in combating pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by oil and other harmful The Protocol for the prevention of pollution of the Muditerranean Sea by dumping from ships and aircraft 1/2

The Protocol for the protection of the Mediterranean Sea against pollution from land-based sources substances in cases of emergency

With reserve.

Accession.

Approval. 65.4%

## ANNEX II

# List of meetings organized or co-sponsored in 1981 and planned in 1982

1981	
Meeting of Experts to Evaluate the Pilot Phase of MED POL and to Devleona Long-Term Monitoring and Research Programme for the Mediterranean Action Plan (FP/U503-75-01, FP/0503-76-U3, FP/0503-75-07, FP/0503-76-U4, FP/0503-76-U5, FP/0503-75-04)	12-16 January Geneva
Meeting of Government Financial and Programming Experts on 1981-83 Workplan and Budget for Mediterranean Action Plan (FP/0503-75-01)	26–30 January Geneva
Meeting of the Bureau	l March Cannes
Second Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention (FP/0503-75-01)	2-7 March Cannes
Blue Plan Focal Points	3–4 April Sophia Antipolis
Interagency meeting on Human Settlements Programme	5-7 May Geneva
IAAC X (Inter-Agency Advisory Committee)	ช-12 June Geneva
IAAC XI	6-10 July Geneva
Bureau meeting	23 September Athens
IAAC XII	24-25 September Athens
Working Group on Scientific and Technical Co-operation	28 September - 2 October Athens
Drafting Committee on Protocol on Specially Protected Areas Bureau meeting	15-16 December Geneva 17-18 December Geneva

1982		
IAAC XIII		January
Bureau Meeting		28 March Athens
Extraordinary Meeting o Parties to the Conventi the Mediterranean Sea	of the Contracting on for the Protection of	29 March – 1 April Athens
•	entiaries on the Protocol Areas in the Mediterranean	2-3 April Athens

UNEP/1G.36/3 Annex III

Status of contributions to Mediterranean Trust Fund at November 1981 ANNEX III

COUNTRY	1981 APPROVED 1/	PAID	OUTSTANDING	1982 APPROVED 1/	PAID	OUTSTANDING
Albania	1,472	1	1,472	1,692	!	1,692
Algeria	14,720	14,720		16,920	14,892	2,028
Cyprus	1,472	1,472	!	1,692	1,692	!
Egypt	11,776	ł	11,776	13,536	1	13,536
France	855,232	855,232 2/	ŗ	983,052	!	983,052
Greece	51,520		41. 42	59,220	28,480	30,740
Israel	33,856	10,000	23,856	38,916	!	38,916
Italy	497,536	tame and	497,536	571,896	1	571,896
		678,536 *)	(* 52.74 *)			
Lebanon	4,416	!	4,416 8.070 *)	5,076	1	5,076
Libya	23,552	1	23,552	27,072	7	27,072
Malta	1,472	1,472	. !	1,692	1,692	ļ
Monaco	1,472	1,472	1	1,692	į	1,692
			-		871 (15	(1983)
Morocco	7,360	ţ	7,360	8,460	1	8,460
Spain	225,216	ţ	225,216	258,876	!	258,876
			200 *)			
Syria	2,944	1	2,944	3,384	!	3,384
Tunisia	2,944	ţ	2,944	3,384	i	3,384
Turkey	44,160	42,535.32	1,624.68	50,760	!	50,760
		7,178.77 *)		•		
Yugoslavia	58,880	58,88U 85,432 *)	!	67,580	47,948	19,732
EEC	50,000	50,000		500,000	;	500,000
Sub-total	1,890,000	1,087,303.32	802,696.68	2,615,600	94,704 871	2,520,296
GRAND TOTAL		1,858,250.09	879,930.68		95,575	2,520,296
					11 11 11 11 11	55 12 11 11 11 11 11 11 11
TOTAL OUTSTANDING	'ND I NG					3,400,226.68

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1/ UNEP/IG.23/11 Annex X
2/ Of which 142,000 paid in 1980
\*) For 1979-80

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#### ANNEX IV

Mediterranean Action Plan: Budgets for 1981 and 1982 (in thousands of US dollars)

(Including some proposals not yet approved by UNEP)

				•	
SECTION I		1981	Commitments	1982	Commitments
		***************************************	as at 30.11.81		as at 30.11.81
Chapter l	Co-ordination Transfer costs	660.0 190.0	536.3	722.0 -19.0	
Chapter 2	Meetings Transfer costs	140.0		216.0 85.ū	120.0 
Chapter 3	HED POL: Monitoring and supporting activities	600.0	342.4	845 <b>.</b> ü	223.5
Chapter 4	MED POL: Research	200.0		255 <b>.</b> u	***
Chapter 5	Regional Oil Combating Centre	345.0	275.5	418.0	99.2
Chapter 6	Training and exchange of information	on 80.0	26.1	80.0	
SECTION I	, T				
	Blue Plan	700.0	461.5	500.0	
Chapter 2	Priority Actions Programme	85 <b>.</b> û	26.5	100.0	
Chapter 3	Water resources managements			72.0	
Chapter 4	Human settlements	175.0		70.0	
Chapter 5	Soils	160.0		100.0	
Chapter 6	Tourism	100.0		178.0	
Chapter 7	Specially Protected Areas: support to the Regional Activity Centre	125.0		200 <b>.</b> 0	10.0
	TOTAL	3,500.0	1,810.5	3,822.0	926.2