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Meeting of Legal Experts on the  
Draft Protocol for the Protection  
of the Mediterranean Sea against  
Pollution from Land-Based Sources

Geneva, 25-29 June 1979

## ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

### Item 1. Joint opening of the meeting of legal experts and the meeting of technical experts

1. A joint opening of the meeting of legal experts and the meeting of technical experts on the draft protocol for the protection of the Mediterranean Sea against pollution from land-based sources will begin at 10:00 hours on Monday, 25 June 1979, at the World Health Organization in Geneva, Switzerland. The meeting will be opened by the representative of the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme.

### Item 1(a). Rules of procedure

2. Since the meeting is being convened by the Executive Director at the recommendation of the Contracting Parties<sup>1/</sup> "to study problems which, because of their specialized nature could not fruitfully be discussed during the normal sittings of the Contracting Parties"<sup>2/</sup>, the rules of procedure for meetings and conferences of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution and its related protocols shall apply mutatis mutandis as provided for in Rule 49.

### Item 1(b). Election of officers for the two meetings

3. A Chairman, two Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur should be elected for each meeting.

<sup>1/</sup> UNEP/IG.14/9, Annex V, Recommendation 31

<sup>2/</sup> UNEP/IG.14/9, Annex VII, Rule 49 of the rules of procedure of the Contracting Parties

Item 2. Adoption of agenda

4. The provisional agenda suggested by the secretariat has been circulated under symbol UNEP/WG.17/1.

Item 3. Organization of the work of the meeting

5. It is proposed that the work of the meeting be carried out in plenary and by such ad hoc working groups as may prove desirable.

Item 4. Introduction of documents prepared for the meeting

6. The last intergovernmental discussions concerning the draft protocol were held during the Intergovernmental Review Meeting of Mediterranean Coastal States on the Mediterranean Action Plan in Monaco, 9-14 January 1978. Paragraph 54 of the report of the Monaco meeting (UNEP/IG.11/4) notes that:

"It became clear during the deliberations that many questions still needed to be resolved before a consensus could be reached on the text of a final protocol. The Meeting reviewed each article of the draft protocol, and on the basis of their discussions, an inventory of areas of disagreement and of points that needed clarification will be prepared. The Secretariat was requested to circulate this inventory to all participants as soon as possible after the close of the Meeting. All delegations will have the right to submit to the Secretariat any amendments or additions to the inventory if they consider that their observations have not been properly recorded".

7. The inventory of areas of disagreement and of points requiring clarification was prepared and circulated to the Mediterranean coastal States and the EEC for amendments or suggested additions. The inventory is before the meeting as document UNEP/WG.17/4.
8. In order to assist Governments further in their negotiations, the World Health Organization (WHO) and UNEP requested a consultant to prepare a study of legal precedents which might help to clarify the areas of disagreement highlighted at the Monaco meeting. This study has been circulated under the symbol UNEP/WG.17/5.
9. The WHO has also prepared a note on "new installations : an outline of some existing definitions". This note has been circulated under the symbol UNEP/WG.17/INF.4.
10. At the Monaco meeting, one delegation submitted its proposals regarding the draft protocol in the form of an alternative draft accompanied by an explanatory text. These proposals have been circulated under symbol UNEP/WG.17/INF.5.

Item 5. Review of the preliminary draft protocol for the protection of the Mediterranean Sea against pollution from land-based sources

11. The Intergovernmental Review Meeting of the 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 recommended that:

"Parallel meetings of technical and legal experts should be convened in Geneva from 25 to 29 June 1979 to consider new material that has been developed by the secretariat, or provided by the Governments and the EEC, with a view to resolving the outstanding difficulties which prevent a consensus from being reached on the text of a draft protocol suitable for submission to a diplomatic conference with a view to its final adoption".<sup>3/</sup>

12. It is the hope of the Executive Director that after reviewing the new material that has been developed by the secretariat in co-operation with WHO, the experts will be in a position to prepare a revised text of the protocol on the basis of which a regional consensus on the final protocol may be achieved.

Item 6. Other business

13. The meeting is invited to discuss any related matter which has not been considered under other items. The Executive Director requests that the experts advise him as to the steps to be undertaken in the future which should lead to the final adoption of a protocol for the protection of the Mediterranean Sea against pollution from land-based sources.

Item 7. Adoption of the report

14. The meeting should approve its final report.

Item 8. Joint closure of the meeting of legal experts and the meeting of technical experts

15. A joint closure of the parallel meetings will be held under the co-Chairmanship of the Chairmen of the two meetings.

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<sup>3/</sup> UNEP/IG.14/9, Annex V, Recommendation 31