



United Nations Environment Programme



Distr.
RESTRICTED
UNEP/WG.18/2
9 April 1979
ENGLISH

Meeting of Technical 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 technical experts and the meeting of legal experts

1. A joint opening of the meeting of technical experts and the meeting of legal 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^{1/} "to study problems which, because of their specialized nature could not fruitfully be discussed during the normal sittings of the Contracting Parties"^{2/}, 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.

^{1/} UNEP/IG.14/9, Annex V, Recommendation 31

^{2/} 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.18/1.

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. During the last intergovernmental discussions concerning the draft protocol, the secretariat was requested to provide additional technical information and documentation on pollution from land-based sources in the Mediterranean.
7. To this end, the International Register of Potentially Toxic Chemicals (IRPTC) of UNEP has prepared a document in two volumes entitled: "Data profiles for chemicals for the evaluation of their hazards to the environment of the Mediterranean Sea". This document has been circulated under the symbol UNEP/WG.18/INF.6. The document is aimed at presenting data necessary for the evaluation of the potential hazards to the environment of chemicals likely to be listed in the annexes of the final protocol.
8. In addition, and in co-operation with the World Health Organization (WHO), a document entitled "Principles and Guidelines for the Discharge of Wastes into the Marine Environment" has been prepared and circulated under the symbol UNEP/WG.18/INF.7. This document is related to Annex III of the draft protocol and is meant to assist responsible authorities by elaborating upon principles and guidelines to be taken into consideration when issuing permits for the discharge of certain types of land-based waste into the marine environment.
9. At the Monaco meeting, one delegation submitted its proposals regarding the draft protocol including the technical annexes 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 technical annexes to the preliminary draft protocol for the protection of the Mediterranean Sea against pollution from land-based sources

10. 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 (Geneva, 5-10 February 1979) 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".^{3/}

11. 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 the WHO and the IRPTC, the experts will be in a position to prepare revised technical annexes to the protocol on the basis of which a regional consensus on the final protocol may be achieved.

Item 6. Other business

12. 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

13. The meeting should approve its final report.

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

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

^{3/} UNEP/IG.14/9, Annex V, Recommendation 31