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Second Meeting of the Working Group
for Scientific and Technical Co-operation
for MED POL

Athens, 21-25 November 1983



REPORT OF THE SECOND MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP
FOR SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION
FOR MED POL

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Introduction

1. The Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution and its related protocols adopted, at their Second Ordinary Meeting (Cannes, 2-7 March, 1981), the Long-term Programme for Pollution Monitoring and Research in the Mediterranean Sea (MED POL - PHASE II) (document UNEP/IG.23/11, annex V). A standing Working Group for Scientific and Technical Co-operation was thereby established by the Contracting Parties to assist them in reviewing the progress of the programme and in the evaluation of the results. The Working Group's terms of reference included advising UNEP on technical and policy matters relating to the MED POL programme and related matters, and the preparation of recommendations for submission to the Contracting Parties, through UNEP as the secretariat of the Convention.

2. The Working Group held its first meeting in Athens from 28 September to 2 October 1981, and, among other matters, reviewed and revised the basic criteria for the development of (a) national monitoring programmes and assistance for their implementation, and (b) supporting and research activities (document UNEP/WG.62/7).

3. At their Third Ordinary Meeting, held in Dubrovnik from 28 February to 4 March 1983, the Contracting Parties recommended that the Second Meeting of the Working Group for Scientific and Technical Co-operation be convened as soon as possible in order to assess the state of the implementation of the MED POL programme and to formulate proposals for the utilization of the 1984-1985 budget, taking into account the partition decided by the meeting at its plenary session (70% for national centres, 30% for international agencies) (document UNEP/IG.43/6, para. 66).

4. In pursuance of this recommendation, the Co-ordinating Unit of the Mediterranean Action Plan invited designated National Co-ordinators for MED POL to attend the Second Meeting of the Working Group which was convened at the premises of the Unit in Athens from 21 to 25 November 1983. The National Co-ordinators could be accompanied by one or more experts. Representatives of the Co-operating Agencies and experts designated by them, as well as representatives of other intergovernmental organizations, were also invited.

5. The meeting was attended by National Co-ordinators for MED POL from twelve Mediterranean countries and the EEC, other experts designated by Mediterranean countries and representatives of six United Nations Co-operating Agencies. Representatives of two regional organizations attended the meeting as observers. A list of participants is attached as annex I to this report.

Agenda item 1: Opening of the meeting

6. The meeting was opened by Mr. A. Manos, Co-ordinator of the Mediterranean Action Plan, on behalf of Dr. Mostafa K. Tolba, Executive Director of UNEP. He welcomed participants to the meeting and to the Co-ordinating Unit in Athens, which had been formally inaugurated on 1 October 1982. In briefly reviewing the tasks of the meeting, he stated that there was insufficient exchange among countries, through bibliographic information, of the results of their research. The entry into force of the Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution from Land-based Sources in June 1983 made it imperative to draw the practical conclusions from the

pilot phase of MED POL, and to proceed without delay with the implementation of the objectives of MED POL - PHASE II. Mr. Manos said that two documents representing the results of MED POL - PHASE I were before the meeting. These were the assessment of the state of (a) microbial and (b) mercury pollution of the Mediterranean Sea. He also pointed out to the Working Group that for the development of MED POL - PHASE II, they would have to review the work plan and budget proposals for 1984-1985, as well as a number of reporting formats and reference methods. The list of documents appears as annex II to this report.

7. Dr. S. Keckes, Director of the Regional Seas Programme Activity Centre of UNEP, recalled that UNEP attaches great importance to MED POL as it is the most complex and developed regional research and monitoring programme in the framework of the UNEP-sponsored Regional Seas Programme. As such, it serves as the cornerstone of interregional co-operation between similar programmes being developed in other regions, with the ultimate aim of providing the marine component of the Global Environment Monitoring System (GEMS). He also observed that the first in-depth analyses of the results relating to the quality of recreational and shellfish-growing waters, and to the levels of mercury in organisms obtained during PHASE I of MED POL were available. Those analyses had been submitted to the meeting for comments, together with the recommendations of the secretariat for actions/decisions to be taken by the Contracting Parties.

Agenda item 2: Rules of procedure

8. Mr. A. Manos informed the meeting that the Rules of Procedure of the Meeting and Conferences of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution and its Related Protocols (UNEP/IG.23/11, annex VII) would apply mutatis mutandis to the meeting of the Working Group as a subsidiary body of the Conference of the Contracting Parties, and that should a recommendation have to be made, only the National Co-ordinators for MED POL would be in a position to speak on behalf of their authorities.

Agenda item 3: Election of officers

9. The meeting unanimously elected the following officers:

Chairman	: Dr. Ljubomir Jeftic	(Yugoslavia)
Vice Chairmen	: Mr. Michel Dupré	(France)
	Mr. Mohamed Maliti	(Morocco)
Rapporteur	: Mr. Louis Vella	(Malta)

Agenda item 4: Adoption of the agenda

10. The meeting adopted the agenda which appears in annex III to this report.

Agenda item 5: Organization of work

11. The meeting agreed to work only in plenary session with the proviso that ad hoc discussion groups or drafting committees would be formed by the Bureau in consultation with the secretariat if any specific matter so required.

Agenda item 6: Progress report on the implementation of the MED POL monitoring activities during 1981-1983 and proposals for 1983-1985

12. Mr. A. Cruzado, Senior Marine Scientist of the MED UNIT, introduced, on behalf of the secretariat, document UNEP/WG.91/3 which was prepared in close collaboration with the relevant Co-operating Agencies. This document contained information on the progress to date in the implementation of the monitoring activities of the Long-term Programme for Pollution Monitoring and Research in the Mediterranean Sea (MED POL - PHASE II) since it began in 1981, together with proposals for 1984-1985.

13. The secretariat stressed the need for all Mediterranean Governments to submit details of their ongoing monitoring programmes, even if no assistance was being solicited. In this regard, the meeting was informed that delays in signing agreements inevitably led to delays in identifying the possible needs of the participating institutions, and in providing any assistance requested, especially concerning the purchase and forwarding of equipment and expendable items.

14. A National Co-ordinator stressed the importance of shortening the time-lag between submitting and signing proposals, for both research and monitoring, and completing the procedure.

15. During the discussion which ensued, the meeting noted with satisfaction that nearly all countries in the Mediterranean region had appointed National Co-ordinators. With regard to the submission of national monitoring programmes, the representatives of Algeria, Monaco and Syria reported on the different degrees of advancement of the preparations of their national monitoring programme. The national monitoring programme of Greece was submitted to the secretariat during the course of the meeting. The representative of the EEC confirmed the view of the secretariat that the requirement of establishing a monitoring programme was not at present applicable to the Community. It was felt necessary to urge all those Contracting Parties which had not yet provided the MED UNIT with national monitoring programmes to do so at the earliest possible date.

16. The representative of the World Health Organization (WHO) briefly outlined the work which his organization was performing, both within the framework of MED POL, and in related programmes being undertaken as part of WHO's regular programme and budget. The organization's contribution to MED POL already substantial, was being further augmented. The representative of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) informed the Working Group of the activities of his organization regarding MED POL, including the work of the WMO-led GESAMP Working Group on the Interchange of Pollutants between the Atmosphere and the Oceans.

17. During the review of the document, comments were made by the participants on the various aspects of the programme. In particular, the reporting forms for heavy metals, halogenated hydrocarbons in marine organisms and microbial pollution of sea-water were discussed, and changes and additions suggested. The meeting adopted the forms with minor additions, which the secretariat undertook to introduce.

18. The representative of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) and UNESCO stated that the pollution data forms which IOC had received from UNEP for information and comments had been transmitted to the Chairman of the IOC Working Committee for International Oceanographic Data Exchange (IODE), and to the Chairman of the IODE Task Team on Marine Pollution Data, for review. He also suggested that, in order to ensure an adequate interface between MED POL and the IODE system, a Mediterranean data expert and/or the appropriate UNEP secretariat staff member should attend the next session of the Working Committee of IODE, to be held in New York from 8 to 18 January 1984.

19. With regard to data analysis and dissemination, the secretariat informed the meeting that all data collected through the various national monitoring programmes, as well as other data, were kept in the computerized data bank at the MED UNIT in Athens, as supplied to the secretariat on the approved forms. The data collected on the various dumping operations was also included in this data bank. The secretariat undertook to submit samples of computer products to the next meeting of the Contracting Parties (Athens, April 1984) and request the members of the Working Group for advice on their presentation.

20. The Working Group further suggested that the data banks for MED POL, BLUE PLAN and PAP should be well co-ordinated in line with the decision of the Contracting Parties at their Dubrovnik meeting (UNEP/IG.43/6, para. 97).

21. The activities and budget planned for 1984-1985 regarding the monitoring component of MED POL, as shown in annex IV, were adopted by the meeting for presentation to the Extraordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties (Athens, April 1984).

Agenda item 7: Progress report on the implementation of the MED POL research activities during 1981-1983 and proposals for 1983-1985

22. Mr. F.S. Civili, Marine Scientist of the MED UNIT, introduced documents UNEP/WG.91/4 and UNEP/WG.91/4 Add.1, which had been prepared by the secretariat in close collaboration with the relevant Co-operating Agencies. The former document contained information on the implementation of the research activities carried out by national laboratories participating in MED POL - PHASE II as of 30 June 1983, while the latter contained relevant details which were up to date on 15 November 1983.

23. The Working Group noted the report, and discussed its content and a number of comments relevant to the preparation of the updated report to be submitted to the next Extraordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties (Athens, April 1984) were provided to the secretariat. In particular, the Working Group recommended that the updated report should contain a summary for each research activity approved by the Contracting Parties, providing details on all ongoing related activities.

24. In connection with the implementation of the research activities, the UNESCO/IOC and WMO representatives stated that the budget for 1984 and 1985 as recommended by the Bureau did not contain funds for their organizations for the necessary administrative support. They could not therefore guarantee any major free contribution to the programme from their organizations beyond staff costs.

25. The Working Group recommended to the secretariat to obtain from the Co-operating Agencies a description of their activities relevant to the MED POL programme.

26. The financial implications of the implementation of 1983-1985 research activities were outlined by Mr. A. Cruzado.

27. In this connection, at the request of the secretariat, the Working Group recommended the Contracting Parties to treat the individual figures in a flexible way and not to impose rigid adherence to them, since the figures were indicated without knowing the number of research proposals submitted under each activity.

28. The activities and the budget planned for 1984-1985 regarding the research component of MED POL, as shown in annex V, were adopted by the Working Group for transmission to the Extraordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties (Athens, April 1984).

Agenda items 8 and 9: Assessment of the present state of pollution by mercury in the Mediterranean Sea and proposed control measures;
Assessment of the present state of microbial pollution in the Mediterranean Sea and proposed control measures

29. When introducing these agenda items, the secretariat recalled that the first versions of documents UNEP/WG.91/5 and UNEP/WG.91/6, and of the relevant reference methods for marine pollution studies, had been submitted to the First Meeting of the Working Group for Scientific and Technical Co-operation (Athens, 28 September - 2 October 1981). As that meeting had considered that it had no time to review the documents, it had requested the secretariat to prepare updated versions for consideration by the Contracting Parties. During 1982 and 1983, the secretariat had contacted the MED POL National Co-ordinators seeking comments and additional information relevant to the updating of the documents. On the basis of replies received, as well as additional information made available through MED POL and other sources, the secretariat had prepared documents UNEP/WG.91/5 in co-operation with FAO and WHO, and UNEP/WG.91/6 in co-operation with WHO, which were submitted to the meeting for comments, with a view to their transmission by UNEP to the next meeting of the Contracting Parties (Athens, April 1984).

30. In the ensuing discussion some participants pointed out that the french version of the documents was not available prior to the meeting and expressed the view that the meeting would not have time to provide the secretariat with a thorough analysis of the documents and that their review should therefore be postponed. The secretariat maintained that the documents represented the most substantive outputs so far produced by MED POL and that, in view of their relevance to the entry into force of the Land-based Sources Protocol, its

mandate required that their main conclusions and recommendations should be brought to the attention of the Contracting Parties. In order to enable the secretariat to present those conclusions and recommendations to the Contracting Parties and to reflect the comments of the Working Group for Scientific and Technical Co-operation, it was agreed that, while taking note of the conclusions and recommendations of the documents and in addition to the preliminary comments made at the current meeting, the MED POL National Co-ordinators would provide the secretariat with their comments, in particular with regard to conclusions and recommendations by 15 January 1984. All comments received by that date would be analysed by the secretariat, in co-operation with FAO and WHO, and would be used in preparing the final documents, which would be submitted to the next meeting of the Contracting Parties. The Working Group recommended that the section of document UNEP/WG.91/5 dealing with analyses and evaluation of the problems treated therein to be reviewed by the workshop referred to in para. 2.h. of annex V (activity 'K').

31. General comments, relevant to both documents, made at the meeting were:

- The terminology used should be verified and harmonized; and
- A glossary of technical terms with explanations might help the reader;

32. The Working Group recommended the following changes to be made in document UNEP/WG.91/5 (Assessment of the present state of pollution by mercury in the Mediterranean Sea and proposed control measures):

- The reference method mentioned in para. 113(b) should be recommended not for adoption, but for use without excluding other methods which give comparable results;
- Para. 113(c) should read "Include in their national monitoring programmes, whenever local environmental conditions so require, seafood species known to accumulate mercury, in addition to those agreed upon in the framework of MED POL - PHASE II.";
- Para. 113(d) should read "Limit the anthropogenic discharges Article 5 of that Protocol, and give priority to the elaboration of the necessary programmes and measures with respect to mercury.";
- Para. 113(f) should read "Reinforce the monitoring and research etc."; and
- Add to para. 113(f) "- research on the significance of selenium in the context of pollution by mercury."

33. Specific comments made at this meeting on document UNEP/WG.91/6 (Assessment of the present state of microbial pollution in the Mediterranean Sea and proposed control measures) were:

- The values proposed in para. 175 concerning seafood consumer protection should not prejudice the ongoing work carried out by EEC in accordance with EEC Directive 79/923;

- The reference methods mentioned in para. 181(b) should be recommended not for adoption, but for use; alternative methods, provided they yielded results comparable with those recommended as reference methods, should be also considered for routine use;
- Further studies on the intercomparability of various analytical techniques for the main microbiological indicators, recommended in para. 181(e), should receive low priority; and
- The programme of epidemiological studies, recommended in para. 181(e), should be specifically oriented towards the better understanding of the significance and implications of the proposed environment quality criteria.

Agenda item 10: Review of the report on the implementation of the Protocol concerning co-operation in combating pollution of the Mediterranean by oil and other harmful substances in case of emergency

34. Mr. A. Cruzado introduced documents UNEP/WG.91/7 and UNEP/WG.91/7 Add.1. These were the same documents UNEP/IG.43/Inf.10 and UNEP/IG.43/Inf.10/Add.1 which had been submitted to the Third Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention, Dubrovnik, 28 February - 4 March 1983. The secretariat had been requested at that meeting to submit the documents to the Working Group for comments after further updating of the information contained therein.

35. The secretariat commented that, although the documents had been circulated to the National Co-ordinators with requests for additional information, no new information had become available. The secretariat asked the National Co-ordinators to review the two documents and supply any additional information at their disposal.

36. In the ensuing discussion some participants expressed the view that the documents should include more recent information which could be made available to the secretariat by the Contracting Parties and the Regional Oil Combating Centre. Such information was to reach the secretariat before 15 January 1984, after which the updated report would be forwarded to the next meeting of the Contracting Parties (Athens, April 1984).

Agenda item 11: Review of the report on the implementation of the Protocol for the prevention of pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by dumping from ships and aircraft

37. The secretariat introduced document UNEP/WG.91/8, which it had prepared on the basis of comments received from the Contracting Parties after their meeting in Dubrovnik in 1983.

38. As with agenda items 8 and 9, the Working Group was invited to review the proposed recommendations. These were amended and approved for transmission to the Extraordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties (Athens, April 1984) (see annex VI).

39. The secretariat expressed strong concern about the weakness of the information available on dumping operations carried out in the Mediterranean Sea though it is well known that the actual dumping, particularly of dredge spoils, has a much greater importance than that shown by the document reviewed.

Agenda item 12: Other business

40. The secretariat presented an outline of reports required to be submitted by National Co-ordinators for MED POL to the MED UNIT.

41. It was agreed that the secretariat would forward to all Contracting Parties a reminder listing all the reports which must be submitted to the MED UNIT. Each country would then reply according to its obligations.

42. The reports from the countries should not reach the MED UNIT later than April of each year so that the relevant information could be compiled and analysed in time for review by the Working Group meeting in the following December.

43. The secretariat suggested the use of computerized media for the submission of information and data. Several delegates made favourable remarks regarding this possibility.

44. The meeting was informed of the difficulties encountered by the secretariat in the preparation of the technical documents for the application of the Protocol on Land-based Sources of Pollution. These difficulties required the postponement of the Meeting of Government Experts approved by the Third Meeting of the Contracting Parties (UNEP/IG.43/6, para. 87). Concerned about the difficulty which might arise from the establishment of an ad hoc group on this subject from the standpoint of view of its terms of reference and responsibilities, the Working Group recommended to the secretariat to propose to the Bureau of the Contracting Parties at its January 1984 meeting that it should include on the agenda of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties (Athens, April 1984) an item concerning: "Review of the procedure for the preparation of the implementation of the Protocol on Land-based Sources of Pollution". The Working Group further recommended that the Contracting Parties assign to it the review of technical measures under the above Protocol which should be considered at a special meeting of the WGSTC in 1984 at its December 1984 meeting on the basis of documentation:

(i) Prepared before July 1984 by the secretariat in consultation with experts from Contracting Parties and Co-operating Agencies; and

(ii) Distributed in September 1984 to the MED POL National Co-ordinators;

The conclusions and recommendations of the Working Group will be transmitted by the secretariat to the Fourth Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties (Genoa, 22-26 April 1985) for review.

45. Document UNEP/WG.91/CRP.5 was introduced by Mr. A. Cruzado. At the request of the Third Meeting of the Contracting Parties held in Dubrovnik in 1983, a Workshop on Jelly-fish Blooms in the Mediterranean Sea was convened in Athens from 31 October to 4 November. Sixty-four scientists attended and twenty-seven papers were presented. As part of its conclusions, the Workshop recognized that the problem presented characteristics which required a regional approach and thus should be tackled within the framework of the MED POL activities. Accordingly the secretariat proposed a work plan within this framework and anticipated that some of the activities proposed could be initiated immediately with practically no additional financial requirements. The secretariat undertook to prepare, in consultation with the National Co-ordinators of the countries concerned, a project proposal which would cover specific studies of especially sensitive areas. The recommendations were discussed at length and approved as amended in annex VII.

46. Upon request by the Working Group, FAO reported on the progress made in the updating of the Directory of Marine Research Centres in the Mediterranean and the Regional Bibliography. The Group stressed their importance for the execution of research and monitoring programmes under MED POL, and therefore requested the secretariat to secure timely preparation of the two updated documents. National Co-ordinators were invited to assist in accelerating response, by research centres in their respective countries, to the Marine Science Institutions Register Forms sent out by FAO in June/July 1983, since so far less than one-third of them had been returned.

47. The delegate from Greece announced the setting up of a centre in Greece on unusual ecological phenomena. The centre was preparing a list of correspondents and invited all the National Co-ordinators to add their names or institutions to the list. Forms for this purpose were distributed at the meeting.

48. At the request of a member of the Working Group, the meeting was informed that the usual United Nations procedures required that documents be submitted to the Member States six weeks before the date of any meeting. The secretariat was requested to ensure that in future this procedure would be observed.

49. The secretariat was also asked to take care of the distribution to all national correspondents of documents sent to it with this purpose and when appropriate.

50. The representative of Monaco, speaking on behalf of the International Commission for the Scientific Exploration of the Mediterranean Sea (ICSEM), suggested that the members of the Working Group forward to the secretariat their views on the scientific topics which could be covered by the forthcoming VII ICSEM/UNEP Workshop on Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea.

51. The representative of IOC and UNESCO, in response to a statement by the Chairman concerning co-operation between UNEP and IOC, and referring to the disproportion between the numerous activities involving IOC/UNESCO in the MED POL programme and the Mediterranean Trust Fund actually allocated to implement them, stated that these organizations were promoting marine sciences and environmental activities in the Mediterranean through their regular programme, and he reiterated the willingness of these organizations to collaborate in MED POL.

52. In this regard the Group was informed that IOC, following a resolution by its XII General Assembly (November 1982), had submitted formally to the XI Session of the UNEP Governing Council (May 1983) a report on its present and planned marine pollution research and monitoring activities (document IOC/Inf.523). This Council adopted by consensus a decision encouraging further co-operation and co-ordination between the Regional Seas Programme, and the IOC Global Investigation on Pollution in the Marine Environment (GIPME) and its Marine Pollution Monitoring System (MARPOLMON).

53. The Working Group was informed of the interest expressed by several National Co-ordinators for MED POL in establishing a drift card experiment for the Eastern Mediterranean along the lines of the DRIFTEX exercise carried out during the PHASE I of MED POL. The secretariat promised to distribute in short the report of the PHASE I DRIFTEX and to develop, in collaboration with IOC, a proposal for the activity for presentation to the Contracting Parties meeting, suggesting the use of the Co-ordinating Unit for MAP as the forwarding point for the card recovered.

ANNEX I

List of Participants
Liste de participants

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ANNEX II

List of Documents

A. WORKING DOCUMENTS

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| UNEP/WG.91/1 | Agenda |
| UNEP/WG.91/2 | Annotated agenda |
| UNEP/WG.91/3 | Report on the implementation of the monitoring activities during 1981-1983 and proposals for 1983-1985. |
| UNEP/WG.91/4
UNEP/WG.91/4 Add.1 | Report on the implementation of the research activities during 1981-1983 and proposals for 1983-1985. |
| UNEP/WG.91/5 | Assessment of the present state of pollution by mercury in the Mediterranean Sea and proposed control measures. |
| UNEP/WG.91/6 | Assessment of the present state of microbial pollution in the Mediterranean Sea and proposed control measures. |
| UNEP/WG.91/7
UNEP/WG.91/7 Add.1 | Report on the implementation of the Protocol concerning co-operation in combating pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by oil and other harmful substances in case of emergency. |
| UNEP/WG.91/8 | Report on the implementation of the protocol for the prevention of pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by dumping from ships and aircraft. |
| UNEP/WG.91/9 | Determination of faecal coliforms in sea-water by the membrane filtration culture method. Reference Methods for Marine Pollution Studies No.3/Rev.1, UNEP 1983. |
| UNEP/WG.91/10 | Determination of faecal streptococci in sea-water by the membrane filtration culture method. Reference Methods for Marine Pollution Studies No.4/Rev.1, UNEP 1983 . |
| UNEP/WG.91/11 | Determination of faecal coliforms in bivalves by multiple test tube method. Reference Methods for Marine Pollution Studies No.5/Rev.1, UNEP 1983. |
| UNEP/WG.91/12 | Report of the Second Meeting of the Working Group for Scientific and Technical Co-operation. |

B. INFORMATION DOCUMENTS

- UNEP/WG.91/INF.1 List of documents
- UNEP/WG.91/INF.2 List of participants
- UNEP/WG.91/INF.3 Report on intercalibration exercises carried out by IAEA's International Laboratory for Marine Radioactivity in the framework of MED POL - PHASE I.
- UNEP/WG.91/INF.4 Report on the GESAMP working group on the interchange of pollutants between the atmosphere and the oceans.
- UNEP/WG.91/INF.5 Report on the consultation meeting on the evaluation of methylmercury in Mediterranean populations and related health hazards, Athens, 13-17 September 1982.
- UNEP/WG.91/INF.6 Report of the consultation meeting on methods for monitoring selected pollutants in sewage effluents and coastal recreational waters, Rome, 24-26 November 1982.

C. REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

- FAO/UNESCO/IOC/WHO/WMO/IAEA/UNEP 1983 Co-ordinated Mediterranean Pollution Monitoring and Research Programme (MED POL - Phase I); Programme Description. UNEP Regional Seas Reports and Studies No.23, UNEP, Geneva.
- FAO/UNESCO/IOC/WHO/WMO/IAEA/UNEP Draft individual scientific reports (MED POL (-PHASE I). To appear in Regional Seas Reports and Studies, 1984.
- GESAMP 1982 The health of the oceans. UNEP Regional Seas Reports and Studies No.16, UNEP, Geneva.
- UNEP 1982 Convention for the protection of the Mediterranean Sea against pollution and its related protocols. UNEP
- UNEP 1982a Achievements and planned development of UNEP's Regional Seas Programme and comparable programmes sponsored by other bodies. UNEP Regional Seas Reports and Studies No.1, UNEP, Geneva.
- UNEP 1983 Marine pollution. UNEP Regional Seas Reports and Studies No.25, UNEP, Geneva.

- UNEP 1983a Long-term programme for pollution monitoring and research in the Mediterranean (MED POL - Phase II). UNEP Regional Seas Reports and Studies No.28, UNEP, Geneva.
- UNEP/BUR/18.Corr.1 Meeting of the Bureau of the Contracting Parties to the convention for the protection of the Mediterranean Sea against pollution, Athens, 7-8 April 1983.
- UNEP/IG.23/11 Report of the second meeting of the Contracting Parties to the convention for the protection of the Mediterranean Sea against pollution and its related protocols, and intergovernmental review meeting of Mediterranean Coastal States on the Action Plan. Cannes, 2-7 March 1981.
- UNEP/IG.36/8 Report of the extraordinary meeting of the Contracting Parties to the convention for the protection of the Mediterranean Sea against pollution and its related protocols, Geneva, 27 March-1 April 1982.
- UNEP/IG.43/6 Report of the third meeting of the Contracting Parties to the convention for the protection of the Mediterranean Sea against pollution and its related protocols, Dubrovnik, 28 February-4 March 1983.
- UNEP/WG.62/3/Rev.1 Basic criteria for the implementation of national monitoring programmes.
- UNEP/WG.62/4/Rev.1 Basic criteria for the implementation of research activities.
- UNEP/WG.62/7 Report of the first meeting of the working group for scientific and technical co-operation, Athens, 28 September-2 October 1981.
- WHO 1982 Rapid assessment of sources of air, water and land pollution. WHO offset publication No.62, WHO, Geneva.
- WHO 1982a Waste discharge into the marine environment. Principles and guidelines for the Mediterranean Action Plan. WHO/Pergamon Press.

ANNEX III

Agenda

1. Opening of the meeting.
2. Rules of procedure.
3. Election of officers.
4. Adoption of the agenda.
5. Organization of work.
6. Progress report on the implementation of the MED POL monitoring activities during 1981-1983 and proposals for 1983-1985.
7. Progress report on the implementation of the MED POL research activities during 1981-1983 and proposals for 1983-1985.
8. Assessment of the present state of pollution by mercury in the Mediterranean Sea and proposed control measures.
9. Assessment of the present state of microbial pollution in the Mediterranean Sea and proposed control measures.
10. Review of the report on the implementation of the Protocol concerning co-operation in combating pollution of the Mediterranean by oil and other harmful substances in case of emergency.
11. Review of the report on the implementation of the Protocol for the prevention of pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by dumping from ships and aircraft.
12. Other business.
13. Adoption of the report.
14. Closure of the Meeting.

ANNEX IV

Recommendations concerning monitoring activities planned
for 1984-1985 and their financial implications

The following activities are recommended to be carried out by the secretariat, in close collaboration with the Co-operating Agencies, during the period 1984-1985:

1. Convene two meetings of the Working Group for Scientific and Technical Co-operation in December 1984 and December 1985;
2. Continue close co-operation with the MED POL National Co-ordinators in order to:
 - increase contributions to MED POL - PHASE II through the national monitoring programmes;
 - facilitate contacts with national research centres which are designated as participants in the monitoring activities of MED POL - PHASE II so as to strengthen their participation in the programme;
 - provide equipment, training and fellowships to national research centres;
 - continue the close collaboration with Co-operating Agencies on all relevant aspects of MED POL monitoring activities in order to benefit from their experience, expertise and contributions; and
 - organize small ad hoc meetings of scientists/experts from collaborating research centres to discuss specific problems related to their participation in the programme;
3. Continue to support the national research centres through the common maintenance service of laboratory instruments, provision of reference methods for marine pollution studies, provision of reference materials and analytical standards, and involvement in intercalibration;
4. Further the analysis of the data collected during MED POL - PHASE I, and prepare the relevant scientific publications, in particular the assessment of: (a) pollution from petroleum hydrocarbons, (b) pollution from heavy metals other than mercury and (c) pollution from halogenated hydrocarbons;
5. Strengthen the computerized MED POL data bank by processing the data reported to the secretariat and prepare periodic data profiles of specific pollutants;

6. To continue to develop and test additional reference methods for marine pollution studies, and prepare analytical standards and reference materials relevant to parameters to be monitored during MED POL - PHASE II;
7. Prepare and implement, as a result of research activity 'L', a pilot project which will provide the basis for monitoring the transport of pollutants into the Mediterranean Sea through the atmosphere;
8. Follow activities of bodies whose work is relevant to the MED POL programme, informing the National Co-ordinators, and sponsor the participation of scientists/experts in meetings organized by other bodies on subjects relevant to monitoring activities of MED POL; and
9. Co-sponsor with ICSEM, the VII ICSEM/UNEP Workshop on Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea (Lucerne, October 1984), support the participation of scientists from MED POL research centres, and contribute to the publication of the proceedings.

Proposed allocations for MED POL monitoring activities during 1984-1985
(Presented in US dollars and in format requested by the
Contracting Parties in UNEP/IG.43/6, Annex VII)

	1984	1985
1. PERSONNEL <u>A/</u>		
<u>Experts/Consultants</u>		
- WHO Senior Scientist, P-5, Int.	12mm 72.000	12mm 77,760
- FAO Fishery Expert, P-5, Int.	12mm 75.000	12mm 77.760
- IAEA Maintenance Engineer, P-3, Int.	12mm 60.000	12mm 64.800
<u>Administrative Support</u>		
- WHO Secretary, Athens, Local G-4	12mm 13.000	12mm 13.000
- WHO Secretary, Copenhagen, Local G-4	6mm 7.000	6mm 7.000
- FAO Secretary, Athens, Local G-4	12mm 13.000	12mm 13.000
- IAEA Laboratory Assistant, Monaco, Local G-5	12mm 28.500	12mm 30.780
Component Total	268.500	284.100
2. TRAVEL <u>B/</u>		
- WHO	7.000	7.000
- FAO	7.000	7.000
- IOC/UNESCO	2.000	3.000
- WMO	2.000	3.000
- IAEA	15.000	18.000
Component Total	33.000	38.000

A/ Cost of UNEP staff involved in MED POL covered through Chapter I
(Co-ordination) of MAP budget.

B/ Cost of travel of UNEP staff related to MED POL covered through Chapter I
(Co-ordination) of MAP budget.

Proposed allocations for MED POL monitoring activities during 1984-1985
 (Presented in US dollars and in format requested by the
 Contracting Parties in UNEP/IG.43/6, Annex VII)
 (Continued .../2)

	1984	1985
3. SUBCONTRACTS		
- Intercalibration contracts (through WHO)	8.000	10.000
- Intercalibration of petroleum hydrocarbon analytical methods (through IOC)	10.000	12.000
- Printing of ICSEM/UNEP proceedings (ICSEM through the secretariat)	-	25.000
- New agreements and extension of existing ones	243.500	252.600
Component Total	261.500	299.600
4. MEETINGS/TRAINING/WORKSHOPS/FELLOWSHIPS		
<u>Meetings:</u>		
- Working Group for Scientific and Technical Co-operation	40.000	45.000
<u>Training:</u>		
- On-job training (through the secretariat)	77.500	82.900
<u>Fellowships:</u>		
- Fellowships for attendance at meetings:		
: ICSEM/UNEP Workshops	35.000	-
: WHO/UNEP intercalibration exercises	8.000	12.000
: Other meetings	40.000	45.000
Component Total	200.500	184.900

Proposed allocations for MED POL monitoring activities during 1984-1985
(Presented in US dollars and in format requested by the
Contracting Parties in UNEP/IG.43/6, Annex VII)
(Continued .../3)

	1984	1985
5. EQUIPMENT <u>C/</u> <u>Expendable</u>		
- Spare parts for common maintenance service (through IAEA)	17.000	21.000
<u>Non-expendable</u>		
- Laboratory equipment (to ILMR)	16.000	18.000
Component Total	33.000	39.000
6. RENTAL AND MAINTENANCE OF PREMISES <u>D/</u>	-	-
Component Total	-	-
7. OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF EQUIPMENT <u>E/</u> - IAEA	1.500	1.800
Component Total	1.500	1.800

C/ Equipment committed through Agreements included in Section 3
(Sub-contracts).

D/ No direct costs to MED POL.

E/ This item covers only the cost of operation and maintenance of equipment
used by ILMR for common maintenance service

Proposed allocations for MED POL monitoring activities during 1984-1985
(Presented in US dollars and in format requested by the
Contracting Parties in UNEP/IG.43/6, Annex VII)
(Continued .../4)

	1984	1985
8. REPORTING COSTS <u>F/</u> - IAEA	1.000	1.300
Component Total	1.000	1.300
9. SUNDRY <u>G/</u> - IAEA	1.000	1.300
Component Total	1.000	1.300
GRAND TOTAL	800.000	850.000

F/ Costs of translation and printing of UNEP documents related to MED POL covered through Chapter I (Co-ordination) of MAP budget.

G/ Cost of sundry items related to MED POL incurred by UNEP covered through Chapter I (Co-ordination) of MAP budget.

ANNEX V

Recommendations concerning research activities planned for
1984-1985 and their financial implications

1. In connection with the implementation of the research component of MED POL - PHASE II, the following general procedures were adopted by the Working Group for transmission to the next Extraordinary Meeting of Contracting Parties (Athens, April 1984).
 - a. All research proposals should reach the secretariat, with the endorsement of the relevant MED POL National Co-ordinator, not later than 15 March of each year. Project proposals reaching the secretariat after that date would only be considered for financial support in the following year only. This procedure would allow for proper planning of resources and would allow the secretariat to draw the attention of the Contracting Parties to research subjects not covered by proposals.
 - b. The secretariat, in collaboration with the Co-operating Agencies, would evaluate each proposal and inform officially, by the end of June of each year, the originator of the proposal and the National Co-ordinator about the acceptance or the refusal of the proposal, as well as the size of support allocated to the project.
 - c. Regardless of the duration of the project indicated at the beginning, funding will be ensured for a period of twelve months, with the possibility of additional funding subject to receipt of a satisfactory progress report.
 - d. Support provided through MED POL should continue to have a catalytic function, and most of the cost of each project should be covered by the Governments, or other sources at the disposal of the project.
 - e. A single project should not receive more than US\$ 10,000 over any twelve month period, without explicit approval of the Working Group.
 - f. When no adequate proposals have reached the secretariat for certain type of research activities approved by the Contracting Parties, the secretariat may actively solicit proposals from Mediterranean research centres, in particular on topics essential for the successful implementation of the monitoring component of MED POL.
2. The following procedures, specific for individual research activities, are recommended for consideration by the Contracting Parties at the next Extraordinary Meeting (Athens, April 1984).
 - a. Activity 'A'. Project proposals related to development and testing of methods for mandatory monitoring parameters should have priority. Allocation for Activity 'A' could also be used in connection with the cost of the meetings (workshops) related to testing and intercalibration of sampling and analytical techniques.

- b. Activities 'B', 'C' and 'E'. The commencement of these research activities and the content of their programme will be based on the progress of the work of the group responsible for the implementation of the Land-based Sources Protocol.
- c. Activity 'D'. In view of the progress made through MED POL in the evaluation of the environmental quality of bathing beaches and shellfish growing waters, as well as of the levels of mercury in sea-food, efforts should be continued and intensified to obtain the additional epidemiological knowledge needed for the full understanding and interpretation of data obtained up until now. Two small expert group meetings are planned to be convened to further research in each of these fields.
- d. Activity 'F'. In addition to the work proposed to be carried out through project proposals, IOC will collect and analyse information on oceanographic processes relevant to the surface circulation and vertical transport in the Mediterranean.
- e. Activities 'G' and 'I'. Two small workshops are planned to be convened in 1984 and 1985 respectively to evaluate the first results of the approved projects and to discuss methodological problems related to these activities.
- f. Activity 'H'. The results of the Workshop on Jelly-fish Blooms in the Mediterranean, held in Athens from 31 October to 4 November 1983, will be used for the further development of this activity, as reflected in annex VII.
- g. Activity 'J'. The activity of GESAMP's Working Group on Biological Effects of Thermal Effluents in the Marine Environment will be closely followed and taken into account in approving project proposals in this field.
- h. Activity 'K'. A workshop is planned to be convened in 1984 to review the biogeochemical cycle of mercury in the Mediterranean in order to provide additional information needed for the assessment of mercury pollution in the Mediterranean.
- i. Activity 'L'. In addition to the work proposed to be carried out through the research proposals, the activity of GESAMP's Working Group on Interchange of Pollutants between the Atmosphere and the Oceans will be used to formulate a pilot project which will provide the basis for monitoring of air-borne pollutants.

Proposed allocations for MED POL research activities
 during 1984-1985

		<u>1984</u>	<u>1985</u>
<u>SUBCONTRACTS</u>			
Activity	A	30.000	30.000
	B	16.000	18.000
	C	16.000	18.000
	D	20.000	30.000
	E	16.000	18.000
	F	16.000	18.000
	G	16.000	18.000
	H	20.000	20.000
	I	10.000	15.000
	J	10.000	10.000
	K	20.000	20.000
	L	20.000	30.000
Sub-total		210.000	245.000
<u>MEETINGS</u>			
Activity	A	10.000	10.000
	D	10.000	10.000
	G	10.000	-
	I	-	10.000
	K	10.000	-
Sub-total		40.000	30.000
GRAND TOTAL		250.000	275.000

ANNEX VI

Recommendations concerning the implementation of the Protocol for the prevention of pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by dumping from ships and aircraft

1. All Contracting Parties should without delay designate national authorities in accordance with Article 10.
2. Issuance of general permits in accordance with Article 6 should be reported to the secretariat once a year, by the end of February.
3. The annual reports on the actual amounts of waste dumped in accordance with Articles 5, 6 and 8 should reach the secretariat by the end of February and cover the whole of the preceding calendar year. The reports should cover all dumping activities, in order to enable the secretariat to assess the pollutant load reaching the Mediterranean Sea through dumping, as well as the efficiency of control measures taken.
4. In view of the diversity of languages used by the national authorities in their correspondence with the secretariat, the secretariat should receive information in one of its working languages (English or French).
5. The members of the Working Group, in particular States where no national authorities have been designated under Article 10, should provide assistance to the secretariat in updating document UNEP/WG.91/8. This will enable the secretariat to prepare a more substantive report for the forthcoming meeting of the Contracting Parties (Athens, April 1984) on the implementation of the Protocol.

ANNEX VII

Recommendations concerning a Jelly-fish Programme

1. During the week of 31 October to 4 November 1983, a Workshop on Jelly-fish blooms in the Mediterranean was organized in Athens by the Co-ordinating Unit for the Mediterranean Action Plan, as a follow-up to a recommendation of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention.
2. Twenty-seven papers were presented by a number of Mediterranean and non-Mediterranean scientists, analysing recent findings as well as historical records on the occurrence of different jelly-fish species in the Mediterranean. Biological and environmental conditions were analysed and the impact of the jelly-fish swarms on human activities, mostly fisheries, human health and recreation, was reviewed (see attached conclusions) and as a result of the discussions, a number of actions were suggested (see recommendations).
3. In addition, some practical proposals were submitted to the Workshop, in particular:
 - the use of the recently established Greek center for the Mediterranean documentation and for unusual ecological phenomena;
 - the use of the study center of the University of Trieste, for training and research in the biology of Pelagia noctiluca.
4. In order to better co-ordinate the national and international efforts to produce a common programme, the following workplan is proposed by the Secretariat in the framework of MED POL:
 - 4.1 In the framework of the monitoring activities as part of MED POL - PHASE II, it is suggested that, on an interim basis, all national monitoring programmes include observations on the presence of jelly-fish between the parameters foreseen for the monitoring of type 'B' (monitoring of coastal waters) and 'C' (monitoring of reference areas). This kind of observations could be made in connection with the sampling of coastal waters needed for the determination of the microbial pollution (monitoring 'B') or during oceanographic cruises (monitoring 'C').
 - 4.2 The methodology to be used was proposed by UNEP and a draft document was presented at the above mentioned Workshop on Jelly-fish blooms in the Mediterranean and is proposed to be utilized on a trial basis by all involved.

4.3 At the same time, observations by all national sources, such as fishermen, coast guards, ships of opportunity, etc. should be solicited and, when available, taken into account as appropriate. Forms for reporting will be made available by the Med Unit in short.

4.4 In the framework of the research activities as part of MED POL - PHASE II scientists should be encouraged to present research proposals, through the agreed channels, on the following topics:

- a) Factors affecting population dynamics of jelly-fish;
- b) Biology, ecology, physiology, biochemistry, etc., of jelly-fish for the understanding of the observed distribution;
- c) Hydrodynamics of coastal and open-sea areas controlling the transport of jelly-fish swarms;
- d) Characterization of jelly-fish poisoning and preventive and curative treatments.

In order to present proposals, scientists will use the existing framework established for the implementation of the research activities, and in particular they may refer to activities 'D', 'F', 'H', 'I', in close collaboration with the relevant Co-operating Agencies.

5. In addition to the activities described under 4., UNEP, in consultation with the National Co-ordinators for MED POL, will prepare a more comprehensive programme which will make full use of all ongoing related activities in the Mediterranean Basin. The following actions will be taken;

- a) assessment of the impact of jelly-fish blooms on human activities especially in the fields of i) tourism, ii) fishery including aquaculture. A close co-operation with PAP, Blue Plan and FAO will be ensured.
- b) Development of criteria and guidelines related to health education and protection (i.e., beach management, preventive measures and treatment of stings, preparation of information leaflets on the subject, etc.) in close co-operation with WHO.

6. In order to accomplish what is described under 4. and 5., UNEP will take into consideration and make full use of all existing national and international resources. A detailed programme including additional funds eventually required will be submitted for the approval of the Contracting Parties at their next meeting after comments are received from the members of the WGTC.