



## RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations were approved by the Meeting for transmission to the Contracting Parties.

### I.A COORDINATION

#### I.A.1 Legal framework

##### I.A.1.1 Status of ratification of the Convention and the Protocols

###### **(a) Recommendations to the Contracting Parties:**

1. To urgently accept the amendments to the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean (the Barcelona Convention); the Protocol for Prevention of Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by Dumping from Ships and Aircraft or Incineration at Sea (the Dumping Protocol); and the Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution from Land-Based Sources and Activities (the LBS Protocol).
2. To ratify, accept, approve or accede as soon as possible to the Protocol concerning Cooperation in Preventing Pollution from Ships and, in Cases of Emergency, Combating Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea (the Prevention and Emergency Protocol).
3. Also, as soon as possible, to ratify, accept, approve or accede to the Protocol concerning Specially-Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean (the SPA and Biodiversity Protocol).
4. To request the depositary country (Spain), together with the Bureau of the Contracting Parties, to take an active role in encouraging the Parties to speed up the ratification process.

###### **(b) Recommendation to the Secretariat:**

To undertake the necessary actions to assist the Contracting Parties in their efforts with a view to the entry into force of the MAP Phase II legal instruments.

##### I.A.1.2. Regional Instrument for ICAM

###### **(a) Recommendations to the Contracting Parties:**

1. To affirm the urgent need to address the continuing degradation of the Mediterranean coastal zone through a process of integrated management.
2. To take note of the feasibility study and its various options for the regional legal instrument on coastal management.

**(b) Recommendation to the Secretariat (PAP/RAC):**

To prepare a draft text of the regional protocol on integrated coastal management, on the basis of a broad process of consultation among experts and all other interested parties in view of its consideration by the CPs.

**I.A.1.3 Liability and compensation**

**Recommendation to the Secretariat:**

To prepare a feasibility study for submission to the Meeting of the Contracting Parties in 2005 covering the legal, economic, financial and social aspects of a liability and compensation regime based on the organization of a participatory process with the Contracting Parties and socio-economic actors and with a view to avoiding overlapping with any other liability and compensation regime.

**I.A.1.4. Reporting system and mechanism for promoting implementation and compliance with the Barcelona Convention**

**(a) Recommendations to the Contracting Parties:**

1. To commence the implementation of Article 26 of the Barcelona Convention starting from the biennium 2002-2003 on the basis of the updated reporting format, as indicated in document UNEP(DEC)/MED WG.228/9.
2. To approve the establishment of a Working Group of Legal and Technical Experts to be assigned the following tasks:
  - a. to elaborate a platform to promote the implementation of and compliance with the Barcelona Convention to be submitted for consideration to the Meeting of the Contracting Parties in 2005;
  - b. to provide guidance for the preparation of the regional report on the status of the implementation of the Barcelona Convention in the biennium 2002 – 2003;
  - c. the Working Group should be composed of six experts nominated by the Contracting Parties, respecting geographical distribution, along with one representative from the MAP partners with a view to sharing continuously with all the Contracting Parties the progress achieved in the process.

**(b) Recommendations to the Secretariat:**

1. To provide assistance to the Contracting Parties to strengthen their reporting capacities and systems.
2. To prepare a regional report on the implementation of the Barcelona Convention in the biennium 2002-2003 for submission to the Meeting of MAP National Focal Points and of the Contracting Parties in 2005.
3. To prepare reporting formats and guidelines for the non-legal component of MAP with a view to having a draft for consideration by the Contracting Parties at their 2005 Ordinary Meeting.

4. To further work towards the harmonization of reporting procedures with other multilateral environmental agreements and the respective European Union directives with a view to having updated formats for consideration by the Contracting Parties at their 2005 Ordinary Meeting.

#### **I.A.1.5. Assistance to countries in legal matters**

##### **Recommendation to the Secretariat:**

To strengthen support to countries on legal matters related to the protection of marine and coastal zones in the Mediterranean.

#### **I.A.2 Institutional framework**

##### **I.A.2.1. MAP and RACs evaluation**

##### **Recommendations to the Secretariat**

1. To launch the external overall evaluation of MAP, including the evaluation of the MED POL Programme with a view to presenting it to the Meeting of the Contracting Parties in 2005. In this process the document UNEP(DEC)/MED WG.228/5 "Draft Strategic Assessment of the General Framework of the Barcelona Convention (MAP evaluation)" could be considered as an input, while ensuring the consideration of other inputs from Contracting Parties.
2. To take note of the recommendations included in documents UNEP(DEC)/MED WG.228/6 "Draft Report on "Evaluation of SPA/RAC: Programme Assessment and Prospects"; and UNEP(DEC)/MED WG.228/7 "Evaluation of the Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC)" including the "Management Performance Audit of the Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC)" and to propose positive follow-up .
3. To submit a proposal in cooperation with the Government of Tunisia and UNEP to the Bureau during the next biennium related to the future status of SPA/RAC.

#### **I.A.3 Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD)**

##### **(a) Recommendations to the Contracting Parties:\***

1. [To approve the Vision and the Framework Orientations for a Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (doc UNEP(DEC)/MED IG.15/10);]
2. [To approve the MCSD proposed recommendations on MCSD assessment and prospects (doc UNEP(DEC)/MED IG.15/3, annex III, appendix I);]
3. [To establish a Steering Committee to supervise the preparation of the MSSD;]

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\* The following recommendations have not been submitted to the MAP NFP but are proposed for review and approval by the Contracting Parties.

4. [To approve the creation of a post within the MEDU/MCSD Secretariat, for a duration limited to two years, for the preparation of the MSSD;]
5. [To provide the necessary support and contribute to the preparatory process of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD);]
6. [To do their utmost for providing voluntary support for the MCSD in general and the preparation of the MSSD in particular, through specific financial contributions and/or secondment of qualified staff.]

**(b) Recommendations to the Secretariat:**  
(MEDU and concerned MAP components)

1. To organize the preparatory process for the MSSD on the basis of a broad participatory approach and to submit the Strategy document to the next Meeting of the Contracting Parties for adoption.
2. To establish an Advisory Group composed of between five and eight experts to assist in the preparation of the MSSD.
3. To improve cooperation with major groups and partners for a more active contribution to MCSD activities, and in particular the MSSD.
4. To provide assistance to countries and partners for the implementation and follow-up of the MCSD's recommendations.

**I.A.4 Cooperation and partnership with United Nations agencies, intergovernmental organisations (IGOs), non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and other partners**

**I.A.4.1. Cooperation with international and regional organizations:**

**(a) Recommendations to the Contracting Parties:**

To support the strengthening of partnership and cooperation between MAP and the European Commission.

**(b) Recommendations to the Secretariat:**

1. To undertake the necessary steps to request the accreditation of the Barcelona Convention with UN-ECOSOC, so as to improve the visibility of the Mediterranean and be able to participate directly in UNCSD as an observer.
2. To elaborate a work programme for cooperation with the European Commission, for adoption by the Bureau at its first meeting in 2004, based on the following priorities:
  - strengthening the cooperation between MAP and the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership in conformity with the Athens Declaration, 2002;
  - association of the European Commission with the implementation of the SAP MED and SAP BIO;

- participation of the European Commission in the process of preparing the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development;
  - involvement of MAP in the process of implementing the European Strategy for Integrated Coastal Zone Management ;
  - cooperation with the European Commission for the development of the strategy for the implementation of the Prevention and Emergency Protocol.
  - involvement of MAP in the process of preparing and implementing the European Marine Strategy [as confirmed in the Declaration proposed for adoption at the 13<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Contracting Parties], with a view to providing a holistic framework to deal with the protection and conservation of the marine environment.
3. To elaborate a work programme for cooperation with the European Environment Agency (EEA) for adoption by the Bureau at its first meeting in 2004, in order to rationalize the already fruitful collaboration between MAP and EEA.
  4. To provide support for the Secretariat in promoting cooperation and coordination with the relevant intergovernmental organizations and Conventions through the exchange of information and joint activities.
  5. To strengthen cooperation with the relevant United Nations agencies including IMO and their regional offices or commissions, as well as with the Secretariats of environmental conventions and other intergovernmental organizations; by taking into consideration the outputs of the "Environment for Europe" process.
  6. To promote cooperation with the Ionian Adriatic Initiative and the Arab Region cooperation programme (through the League of Arab States, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for West Asia/ ESCWA, UNEP/Regional Office for West Asia/ROWA and CEDARE), and if possible through memoranda of cooperation with joint activities.
  7. To prepare joint projects to be submitted for external funding by relevant intergovernmental organizations, and particularly their regional offices or commissions, including MEDA/SMAP , UNEP/GPA and other programmes.
  8. To strengthen cooperation with regional institutions such as the Regional Environmental Centre for East and Central Europe/ REC, ReREP programme, Baltic 21 Programme, and MedWet and the conventions under the United Nations Regional Seas Programme and other regional seas agreements and programmes.
  9. To develop a joint programme of work with the Euro-Arab Management School to promote training and capacity building on issues of interest to the Contracting Parties such as preparation and management of projects, legal framework and reporting to strengthen cooperation with the relevant United Nations agencies and their regional offices or commissions, as well as with the Secretariats of environmental conventions and other intergovernmental organizations.

#### **I.A.4.2 NGOs and other partners**

##### **(a) Recommendations to the Contracting Parties:**

1. To approve the revised list of MAP partners as contained in document UNEP(DEC)/MED WG.228/Inf.6

2. To include the following NGOs in the list of MAP partners, as indicated in the progress report UNEP(DEC)/MED WG.228/3, such as: Institute for Sustainable Development in Management of Natural Resources (INARE), Greece; Union of Northern Associations for Sustainable Development, UNSAD Lebanon, already considered by the Bureau, together with two newly proposed ones: Mediterranean SOS Network (Greece), ECAT Tirana (Environmental Centre for Administration and Technology, Albania).
3. To mandate the Bureau of the Contracting Parties to review and decide upon, after consultation with the Contracting Parties, applications in conformity with the criteria decided upon by the Contracting Parties and to inform them of any changes in the list of MAP partners at their ordinary meetings.

**(b) Recommendation to the Secretariat:**

To further strengthen its cooperation and assistance to Mediterranean NGOs included in the list of MAP partners, giving priority to those active in the East and South of the Mediterranean.

**I.A.5 Meetings**

**Recommendations to the Secretariat:**

1. To continue convening the joint Meeting of the National Focal Points of BP/RAC, PAP/RAC and ERS/RAC while enhancing its preparation and coordination.
2. To hold joint meetings of the MED POL National Coordinators and the CP/RAC Focal Points and share the experience gained by the two programmes in the framework of the implementation of the SAP, with a view to offering countries the necessary assistance in relation to the reduction of industrial pollution.

**I.A.6 Information, public awareness and public participation**

**(a) Recommendation to the Contracting Parties:**

To promote public participation and access to information on environmental and sustainable development related issues in the region in general and in MAP's fields of activity in particular.

**(b) Recommendations to the Secretariat:**

1. To further consolidate MAP's activities in the fields of information, awareness and public participation, with increased focus on:
  - Providing assistance to countries to promote public participation and access to and dissemination of information while promoting the involvement of the main actors in civil society;
  - Further networking with communication and media professionals, organizing thematic workshops and regularly disseminating press releases and features;
  - Initiating the process of preparing an updated publication on the state of the environment in the Mediterranean region in collaboration with concerned partners;

- Consolidating MAP information tools, in particular MAP web site ,the MAP *MedWaves* magazine and other publications; such as the MAP Technical Reports Series, as well as the library services and the MAP information dissemination system.

2. Starting the preparation of a strategic approach to information, public awareness and public participation, in the context of Article 15 of the Barcelona Convention.

#### **I.A.7 Financial matters**

##### **Recommendations to the Contracting Parties:**

1. To approve the conversion to euro currency of the unpaid pledges for previous years, as they appear in the status of contributions table.
2. To delete the name Yugoslavia from the status of contributions table.
3. To encourage the settlement of the arrears of the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia by the concerned countries by the end of 2005.
4. To approve the integration of participation of the State Union of Serbia and Montenegro in the budget for the 2004-2005 biennium.
5. To encourage and support the introduction of a yearly voluntary contribution.
6. **[To approve the proposed 2004 – 2005 budget].**



## **II. COMPONENTS**

### **II.A. POLLUTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL**

#### **II.A.1. Pollution from land-based sources (MED POL)**

##### **II.A.1.1 Programme policy and coordination**

###### **(a) Recommendations to the Contracting Parties**

1. To sign and ratify the Stockholm Convention by 2004 in view of the complementarity of SAP MED and the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants.
2. To sign and ratify the 1996 London Protocol to the 1972 London Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter.

###### **(b) Recommendations to the Secretariat (MED POL)**

1. To evaluate the MED POL Programme and formulate a new phase of MED POL (2006-2013) responding to the needs of Mediterranean countries in terms of the assessment, prevention and control of marine and coastal pollution, including the impacts of rivers on the marine environment. The programme should represent an effective tool for achieving sustainable development by examining the modalities and implications of implementing the ecosystem-based approach as a management framework for MED POL and other components of MAP, taking into consideration the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and European Union legislation and the Strategy for the Protection and Conservation of the Marine Environment;
2. To take into account throughout the implementation of the SAP the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, and particularly the issues of: energy efficiency and promotion of renewable energy, water and sanitation, and new financial arrangements.
3. To discuss and negotiate, in consultation with the MED POL National Coordinators, the formulation and the launching of possible additional projects with partners/donors for the implementation of the SAP objectives and targets.
4. To explore ways of ensuring increased participation and ownership of the Contracting Parties and other stakeholders in all MED POL activities through their involvement in:
  - the identification of activities and issues to be addressed by MED POL;
  - the preparation of draft technical and policy documents to be submitted for consideration to the MED POL National Coordinators, which could be achieved by the identification of leader country(ies) or observer(s) responsible for undertaking such a task or tasks.

### **II.A.1.2 Implementation of the LBS Protocol and the Strategic Action Programme (SAP)**

#### **Recommendations to the Contracting Parties:**

1. To prepare National Action Plans to address pollution of marine and coastal zones from land-based activities as part of the implementation of the SAP; the Plans should be operational by 2005, should focus at least on the identified pollution hot spots and should take into account the objectives and targets of the SAP, as well as the guidelines and regional plans developed by MED POL and CP/RAC.
2. **[To adopt the approach proposed by the Secretariat in the Regional Plan for a 50 per cent reduction in BOD from industrial sources considering the target date of 2010 and to ask the Secretariat to update the data and information included in the Plan on the basis of the national baseline budgets of pollutant releases and the cleaner production concept].**

### **II.A.1.3. Monitoring**

#### **Recommendation to the Contracting Parties:**

To consider monitoring as an essential tool for assessing and controlling pollution, as well as the effectiveness of measures taken within the framework of sustainable development, and therefore to formulate, implement and operate permanent monitoring programmes, including the newly adopted eutrophication programme, in accordance with the agreed MED POL objectives and methods, including the assessment of the resulting status of transitional, coastal and marine waters.

### **II.A.1.4. Reporting**

#### **(a) Recommendations to the Contracting Parties:**

1. To adopt the concept of the reporting system on the implementation of the SAP, as proposed by the Secretariat.
2. To consider the document containing guidelines for the use of Pollutant Release and Transfer Register (PRTR) formats (UNEP(DEC)/MED WG.233/2) and its annexes on: (i) the reporting format; (ii) codes to be used to complete the reporting format; (iii) industrial sectors for PRTR reporting; and (iv) list of substances released onto land, water and air for PRTR reporting as the basis for the development of national PRTR systems.
3. To integrate the PRTR concept as part of the national environmental policy.
4. To consider environmental and industrial associations and other relevant stakeholders as important partners in the implementation of national PRTR pilot projects.
5. To explore ways of fully integrating small and medium-sized enterprises into the PRTR system.

**(b) Recommendations to the Secretariat (MED POL):**

1. To launch pilot projects to test the feasibility of the reporting system on the implementation of the SAP.
2. To continue to provide assistance to the Mediterranean countries for the implementation of national PRTR pilot projects (potential beneficiaries include Albania, Algeria, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Morocco and Tunisia).
3. To strengthen cooperation with ICS-UNIDO for the implementation of future PRTR systems.
4. To enhance the regional communication programmes in the field of PRTR through the development of regional information dissemination networks.
5. In view of the importance of the sustainability of PRTR reporting, to continue working with the Alexandria project, taking into consideration the possibility of covering additional industries.

**II.A.1.5. Activities related to the implementation of the Dumping Protocol**

**(a) Recommendations to the Contracting Parties:**

1. To adopt the guidelines on the dumping of platforms and other man-made structures proposed by the Secretariat, which were prepared in close consultation with national authorities.
2. To adopt the guidelines on the dumping of inert uncontaminated geological materials proposed by the Secretariat, which were prepared in close cooperation with national authorities.

**(b) Recommendation to the Secretariat ( as revised by MED POL)**

To start the preparation of Guidelines for the placing of matter for a purpose other than dumping such as artificial reefs

**II.A.2 Marine pollution prevention and control (REMPEC)**

**(a) Recommendations to the Contracting Parties:**

1. To support the preparation of the strategy for prevention of and response to marine pollution from ships with a view of its adoption by the Fourteenth Meeting of the Contracting Parties in 2005.
2. To support REMPEC's efforts for the development of monitoring activities in the Mediterranean to detect, prevent and combat pollution in conformity with the relevant international Conventions and regulations.
3. To support the implementation of the proposed projects for the assessment of maritime traffic in the Mediterranean and the related risks, and on the prevention of operational pollution (illicit discharges).

4. To support the preparation of a regional legal instrument on the prevention of pollution from pleasure craft activities in the Mediterranean Sea.
5. To provide REMPEC with the additional human resources necessary to fulfil its mandate, either by seconding professional officers to the Centre or by sponsoring their recruitment.

**(b) Recommendation to the Secretariat:**

1. To extend the network of REMPEC correspondents to national authorities responsible for maritime affairs
2. To continue the process of preparation of the strategy for prevention of and response to marine pollution from ships in close cooperation with the relevant national authorities, inter-governmental organizations, the European Union and the socio-economic and environmental actors.
3. To proceed with the preparation and examination of the feasibility of a draft regional legal instrument on the prevention of pollution from pleasure craft activities in the Mediterranean Sea and to organize a national legal and technical expert meeting in 2004 accordingly.

**II.A.3 Cleaner production**

**(a) Recommendations to the Contracting Parties:**

1. To readapt the role of the CP/RAC as a tool for the achievement of sustainable development by Mediterranean industry, within the framework of the implementation of the SAP, on the basis of its evaluations.
2. **[To adopt the approach proposed in the regional plan for the reduction of the generation of hazardous waste from industrial installations by 20 per cent by the year 2010].**

**(b) Recommendations to the Secretariat (CP/RAC):**

1. To assist the countries in the implementation of the regional plan for the reduction of the generation of hazardous waste from industrial installations and in particular to:
  - a. check the data included in the plan, on the basis of the national baseline budgets required by the SAP;
  - b. assist countries in reviewing their legal framework;
  - c. study the financial mechanism required for implementation of the plan;
  - d. review periodically the progress achieved in the implementation of the plan.
2. To promote the exchange of knowledge between the various actors who play an influential role in terms of the Mediterranean environment

3. To collaborate in initiatives aimed at spreading eco-efficiency in the Mediterranean at the regional, sub-regional, national or local levels, taking into consideration the priority issues established by the SAP, the MCSD and other relevant MAP programmes and activities.
4. To strengthen cooperation with other programmes and components of MAP, and particularly with MED POL, for the implementation of the SAP

## **II.B. BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY AND SPECIALLY PROTECTED AREAS**

### **II.B.1. Collection of data and periodic assessment of the situation**

#### **(a) Recommendation to the Contracting Parties:**

To adopt the reference list of coastal (terrestrial and wetland) habitat types for the selection of sites, as approved by the meeting of SPA Focal Points, to be included in the national inventories of natural sites of conservation interest, and to apply the classification as an indicator.

#### **(b) Recommendations to the Secretariat (SPA/RAC):**

1. To integrate the reference list of coastal (terrestrial and wetland) habitat types for the selection of sites to be included in the national inventories of natural sites of conservation interest into the standard data-entry form (SDF) and to provide assistance to countries for its use.
2. To assist countries in carrying out case studies of inventories of natural sites of conservation interest, using the standard data-entry forms (SDF).

### **II.B.2. Planning and management**

#### **II.B.2.1 Implementation of the action plans**

#### **(a) Recommendations to the Contracting Parties:**

1. To invite all the concerned parties to hold a high-level meeting to define appropriate ways of urgently implementing action for the effective protection of the Mediterranean Monk seal, on the basis of the reports of the expert group convened by SPA/RAC in 2002.
2. To promote when necessary the creation of protected zones in those areas where Mediterranean monk seals are concentrated.
3. To take the necessary steps for a more efficient application of the Action Plan, including the protection of the turtle habitats.
4. To take note of the Guidelines to improve the involvement of marine turtle rescue centres as an additional tool to reduce their mortality and raise public awareness, and to support the creation of rescue centres where necessary. Existing centres should follow the above guidelines as appropriate.

5. To take note of the ACCOBAMS-SPA/RAC guidelines for the development of national networks of cetacean strandings and promote the development of such networks at the national level.
6. To take note of the document on recommendations for a code of conduct for whale-watching in the Mediterranean Sea and recommend the use of the guidelines finalized by ACCOBAMS, and SPA/RAC.
7. To invite Parties which have not yet done so to join ACCOBAMS.
8. To promote research programmes to identify/define critical areas for the threatened *Tursiops truncatus* and *Delphinus delphis* populations and discover the wintering areas of *Balaenoptera physalus*.
9. To take the necessary steps to carry out, within the programmed deadlines, the activities envisaged in the implementation calendar of the Action Plan for the Conservation of Marine Vegetation in the Mediterranean Sea.
10. To grant, in accordance with paragraphs 25 and 26 of the Action Plan for the Conservation of Marine Vegetation in the Mediterranean Sea, the status of Action Plan Associate to the Greek National Centre for Marine Research (NCOMR, Greece) and of Action Plan Partner to Nautilus (Italy).

**(b) Recommendations to the Secretariat (SPA/RAC):**

1. To provide assistance to countries to implement urgent actions for the effective protection of monk seals in the Mediterranean, on the basis of the report of the expert group convened by SPA/RAC in 2002.
2. To prepare an evaluation report on the status of the Mediterranean monk seal for submission to the next Meeting of the Contracting Parties.
3. To translate the fishermen's guide into local languages and to adapt it to national circumstances.
4. To organize a coordination workshop for the standardization of tagging programmes and the centralization of information.
5. To establish collaboration with the General Fisheries Council for the Mediterranean (GFCM) of FAO to undertake educational campaigns for fishermen to haul, handle, release and record correctly turtles that are caught accidentally.
6. To create a permanent website assembling the available data of interest for the conservation of marine turtles in the Mediterranean. The site of the Mediterranean Conference will be used and will also include a Mediterranean newsletter, as recommended by the Action Plan.
7. To organize the second Mediterranean Conference on Marine Turtles in collaboration with the relevant organizations.

In the framework of SPA/RAC-ACCOBAMS cooperation:

8. To assist countries in the creation of national stranding networks and attempt to set up a regional network for strandings in close coordination with the ACCOBAMS Secretariat.

9. To assist countries in the elaboration of National Action Plans for the Conservation of Cetaceans.
10. To assist countries in the promotion of practices aimed at broadening the activities of coastal fishermen to include alternative activities that are more compatible with the conservation of dolphin populations.
11. To collaborate with the relevant organizations to assess the level and effect of by-catch on cetacean populations in Mediterranean fisheries.
12. To assess the implementation of the Action Plan for the Conservation of Marine Vegetation in the Mediterranean Sea and to prepare a report on this subject for submission to the next meeting of SPA National Focal Points.

### **II.B.2.2 Elaboration of new action plans**

#### **(a) Recommendations to the Contracting Parties:**

1. To adopt and implement the Action Plan for the Conservation of Cartilaginous Fish (Chondrichthyans) in the Mediterranean Sea and consider, as appropriate, the proposals for the conservation of these species by other relevant international bodies, CITES in particular, and the advice of the appropriate fisheries bodies.
2. To adopt and implement the Action Plan for the Conservation of Bird Species listed in Annex II to the SPA and Biodiversity Protocol.
3. To adopt and implement the Action Plan on Species Introduction and Invasive Species in the Mediterranean Sea.

#### **(b) Recommendations to the Secretariat (SPA/RAC):**

1. To promote the implementation of the action provided for in the Action Plan according to its timetable:
  - establish a network and directory of collaborators;
  - support the definition of Protocols for: (i) monitoring commercial landings and discards by species; and (ii) recording data on rarely observed, endangered and protected species;
  - contribute to information campaigns and publish materials for public awareness;
  - create guidelines for the reduction of the presence of sensitive species in by-catch and for their release if caught, to be prepared and published in the appropriate languages;
  - organize a symposium on Mediterranean chondrichthyan fish;
  - support the establishment of/or support existing centralized databases.
2. To work in collaboration with the Action Plan partners for the implementation of the action provided for in the Action Plan in accordance with the timetable for implementation.
3. To promote the implementation of the actions provided for in the Action Plan according to the timetable for implementation.

### **II.B.3. Public information**

#### **Recommendation to the Secretariat (SPA/RAC):**

To optimize the dissemination of information on the activities carried out, particularly through the preparation of materials in various forms, including new electronic formats (CD-ROMs, etc), and the improvement and regular updating of the SPA/RAC web site.

### **II.B.4. Selection, establishment and management of Specially Protected Areas of Mediterranean Importance (SPAMIs)**

#### **(a) Recommendations to the Contracting Parties:**

1. To investigate the possibility of approaching IMO to propose that a number of Specially Protected Areas of Mediterranean Importance be designated as Particularly Sensitive Sea Areas, and to assess whether the current legal status of the Mediterranean would allow the establishment of Particularly Sensitive Sea Areas.
2. To include on the SPAMI list the following sites:
  - Parque nacional maritime terrestre del Archipelago de Cabrera;
  - Acantilados de Maro-Cerro Gordo.
3. To establish contingency plans for the protection of SPAMIs in case of accidental pollution.
4. To adopt the criteria and procedures for awarding the Mediterranean Diploma for SPAMIs envisaged in MAP Phase II.

#### **(b) Recommendations to the Secretariat (SPA/RAC):**

1. To cooperate with IMO with a view to starting the process of designating SPAMIs as PSSAs.
2. To assist countries in improving the management of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs).
3. To assist countries in preparing and implementing prevention and contingency plans for MPAs.

### **II.B.5. Training activities concerning specially protected areas and species conservation**

#### **(a) Recommendations to the Contracting Parties:**

1. To take note of the Mediterranean Initiative on Taxonomy and promote its implementation at the national and regional levels.
2. To invite representatives of the concerned international and regional organizations to participate in the implementation of this initiative.
3. To promote the training of taxonomists by inviting the concerned university institutions to encourage post-university specialization in taxonomy and by organizing national



and/or bilateral cooperation systems to encourage students to specialize in taxonomy (fellowships, grants, etc.).

**(b) Recommendations to the Secretariat (SPA/RAC):**

1. To develop, through bilateral cooperation and other appropriate channels, a regional training programme on the management of protected areas, taking into account existing initiatives at the national and regional levels.
2. To contact the relevant international organizations and collaborate with them in implementing the Mediterranean Initiative on Taxonomy, particularly through training courses for taxonomists.

**II.B.6. Project for the elaboration of the Strategic Action Plan for the Conservation of Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean Region (SAP BIO)**

**(a) Recommendation to the Contracting Parties:**

**[To adopt the Strategic Action Plan for the Conservation of Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean Region (SAP BIO) and take the necessary measures for its implementation at the national and regional levels].**

**(b) Recommendation to the Secretariat (SPA/RAC):**

**[To carry out the action provided for in the follow-up chapters of the SAP BIO concerning the preparatory phase and the launching of the SAP BIO, and to identify bilateral and multilateral mechanisms with a view to facilitating the financing and implementation of the SAP BIO]**

**II.B.7. Cooperation and synergy**

**(a) Recommendation to the Contracting Parties:**

To facilitate linkages with other regional intergovernmental processes which can assist in the implementation of agreed actions in the context of the SPA and Biodiversity Protocol.

**(b) Recommendation to the Secretariat (SPA/RAC):**

To reinforce existing partnerships for the implementation of national and regional action and identify additional opportunities for joint implementation and fund-raising with international and national partners, thereby increasing cooperation and synergies.

**II.C SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF COASTAL ZONES**

**II.C.1 Sustainable management of coastal area**

**(a) Recommendations to the Contracting Parties:**

1. To urge the relevant authorities to improve the implementation of the MCSD's recommendations on the sustainable management of coastal areas.

2. To continue efforts for the adoption and/or improvement of national legislation for sustainable coastal management, taking into account the work carried out by PAP/RAC and other international organizations.
3. To support subregional activities for the sustainable management of coastal areas, with a view to developing subregional strategies, programmes, action plans (such as the Adriatic Action of Plan) and projects in related fields.

**(b) Recommendations to the Secretariat (PAP/RAC):**

1. To support and assist countries in the implementation of ICAM methodologies and to undertake thematic studies with a view to developing relevant guidelines and action plans on the issue of coastal landscapes and the sustainable financing of ICAM activities.
2. To assist countries to prepare their national reports on integrated coastal management.
3. To undertake the necessary analyses and prepare a report on the state of Mediterranean beaches, and to develop a regional plan to combat coastal erosion.
4. To pursue the development and implementation of ICAM tools and instruments, and specifically the coastal information systems, rapid coastal environmental assessment, Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) in coastal environments, economic instruments for coastal management, Carrying Capacity Assessment (CCA) for tourism and Integrated Coastal Area and River Basin Management (ICARM) plans.
5. To assist countries in the development of subregional initiatives for ICAM and ICARM taking into account and creating synergies with similar initiatives.

**II.C.2. Implementation of CAMPs**

**(a) Recommendations to the Contracting Parties:**

1. To invite the authorities in Algeria, Cyprus and Slovenia to continue their efforts to support the implementation of CAMP projects in their countries and to invite Morocco and Spain to commence preliminary activities with a view to launching the projects in their countries.
2. To call on the authorities in the countries where CAMP projects have been completed to implement follow-up activities by securing the necessary financial and human resources, with the support of MAP and PAP/RAC.
3. To invite countries where there have not yet been any CAMP projects to propose new projects and to prepare the respective feasibility studies. Countries that have already implemented CAMP projects are invited to consider new projects in light of the recommendations of the proposed ICAM/CAMP strategy, particularly bearing in mind the new types of CAMP projects.

**(b) Recommendations to the Secretariat (PAP/RAC):**

1. To coordinate MAP activities in relation to CAMP projects under the overall responsibility of MEDU, including the development of new types of CAMP projects, such as the transboundary projects.
2. To prepare CAMP feasibility studies, CAMP programmes and agreements, to implement the ongoing MAP CAMP projects and the projects whose implementation has been decided on.
3. To propose to countries where MAP CAMP projects have been completed the introduction of new and/or the adaptation of existing instruments for environmental management, which would enable the follow-up of CAMPs, and to assist those countries to prepare viable projects in continuation of completed MAP CAMP projects.

**II.C.3. The future of coastal zone management and CAMPs within MAP activities**

**(a) Recommendation to the Contracting Parties:**

To prepare regional, national and local ICAM strategies and programmes, using the methodologies, tools and instruments for the implementation of ICAM, and to aim to adopt the regional strategy on integrated coastal area management (ICAM) and CAMP in 2005.

**(b) Recommendation to the Secretariat (PAP/RAC):**

To prepare, in consultation with regional stakeholders and in coordination with MEDU and the concerned MAP components, the regional strategy for integrated coastal area management and CAMP, ensuring a strong synergy with the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development.

**II.C.4. Capacity building and training**

**Recommendation to the Secretariat (PAP/RAC):**

To continue institutional strengthening and capacity building of national and local institutions by means of traditional and internet-based training courses, regional conferences and workshops on strategic and thematic issues relevant to ICAM.

**II.C.5. Information dissemination and awareness**

**Recommendation to the Secretariat (PAP/RAC):**

To continue the exchange of information on ICAM through the clearing-house mechanism, assist countries to prepare their own national clearing-houses for ICAM, maintain the informative website and publish and disseminate guidelines, thematic papers, programme results and other achievements.

## **II.D INTEGRATING ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT**

### **(a) Recommendations to the Contracting Parties:**

1. [To contribute to the finalization and dissemination of the Mediterranean Environment and Development Report (and spin-off publications) and, where necessary, have them translated into languages other than English and French].
2. [To ensure broader dissemination of MAP/Blue Plan documents dealing with environment and development integration (water demand management, free trade and environment in the Euro-Mediterranean context,) among competent authorities and professional bodies].
3. [To support activities related to financing and cooperation for sustainable development and to agricultural and rural development].
4. [To improve the implementation, of the MCSD's recommendations related to indicators and evaluate the progress and difficulties encountered].
5. [To support the implementation by national statistical offices of the MEDSTAT, Environment program and favour the conclusion of an agreement between MAP and EUROSTAT in order to guarantee the optimum use of the outputs by the Contracting Parties].
6. [To encourage national and local authorities, associations in the hotel sector and profit and non-profit organizations to apply the Carrying Capacity Assessment (CCA) for tourism activities as a common tool for sustainable development of tourism].
7. [To support efforts to introduce better practices for urban water resources management, in particular the implementation of the relevant guidelines].
8. [To support activities related to soil erosion/desertification control and management as an essential element of sustainable development in the region, and to support the partnership of MAP with the relevant international organizations and institutions].

### **(b) Recommendations to the Secretariat:**

#### **BP/RAC**

1. [To finalize the Mediterranean Environment and Development Report in cooperation with other MAP components and support the elaboration of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development].
2. [To proceed with the activities related to cooperation, financing and economic tools for sustainable development and to take part in the consultation process of the Euro-Mediterranean Free Trade Area sustainability impact assessment launched by the European Commission]

3. [To develop with competent regional organizations (*Silvamediterranea* /FAO, ICAMAS (International Centre for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies) a prospective vision on sustainable rural development to assist in the changes of policies].
4. [To deepen the prospective analysis on transports, urbanization and sustainability and to contribute together with REMPEC to the implementation of the proposed project for the assessment of maritime traffic in the Mediterranean and the related risks].
5. [To proceed with the implementation of tourism and sustainable development related recommendations (assessment of economic tools for the management and protection of natural and cultural sites, feasibility study of a cooperation mechanism)].
6. [To implement, together with national statistical offices, the *MEDSTAT-Environment* project, Phase II, and to improve synergy with Ministries of the Environment and data producers].
7. [To draw up a regional assessment of progress made in the implementation of recommendations adopted relating to indicators and observatories in order to contribute to the strengthening of sustainable development policies and strategies].
8. [To evaluate the usefulness of compound indices of sustainability for the Mediterranean region].
9. [To assist countries implementing sets of indicators for sustainable water management, while taking other regional initiatives into account].

#### **PAP/RAC**

1. [To assist countries in their endeavours to implement the MCSD' recommendations on urban management and sustainable development through the development of appropriate urban management tools and instruments, and by establishing mechanisms for the exchange of experience of good urban management practices].
2. [To assist countries in the implementation of the guidelines for urban regeneration and in the incorporation of ICAM into urban management].
3. [To promote the use of Carrying Capacity Assessment (CCA) as a tool for the sustainable development of tourism through the enhancement of the capacity of national and local institutions by continuing to offer technical assistance, and to take steps to incorporate it in the ICAM process].
4. [To support local authorities in implementing guidelines for sustainable urban water resources management].
5. [To develop partnerships with international and regional organisations active in the field of the control and management of soil erosion/desertification, and to implement the sub-regional project on the control and management of soil erosion and desertification in the Maghreb countries].

## **II.E ERS RAC**

### **(a) Recommendation to the Contracting Parties**

**[The readapt the role of ERS/RAC with activities in remote sensing, space techniques, information and communication technology, e-governance as a tool for helping the implementation of SAP MOD and SAP BIO towards sustainable development]**

### **(b) Recommendations to the Secretariat (ERS/RAC)**

- 1. [To support MED POL programme and SAP through specific pilot projects, information dissemination, training, capacity building based on use of remote sensing for water quality and dynamics assessment]**
- 2. [To support REMPEC for oil spill detection and monitoring through the integrated use of remote sensing and GIS techniques and other advanced tools (e.g. space-based localization, high-speed satellites communications)].**
- 3. [To support REMPEC for the activities related to the assessment of the risks of marine environment pollution in the Mediterranean in relation to maritime traffic relying on space techniques (e.g. space-based localization, high-speed satellite telecommunication)]**