

10th Meeting of the MCSD, 20-22 June 2005, Athens, Greece

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I. Introduction

The present progress report is submitted by the Secretariat of UNEP/MAP for the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD) in compliance with its Terms of Reference. It covers progress in the implementation of various decisions taken by the MCSD and its Steering Committee as well as the Contracting Parties, during the period June 2004-June 2005.

Organization and implementation of the activities during this period were largely based on the preparation of the draft Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development, the finalisation of the Strategic Thematic Notes, the preparation of a regional review on the National Strategies for Sustainable Development (NSSD) and the support to NSSDs as well as the preparation for and the organisation of thematic activities such as Indicators and Local Governance.

The tenth meeting of the MCSD, kindly hosted and co-financed by Greece, will be held in Athens, from 20 to 22 June 2005. The meeting is expected to conclude at 14.00 on Wednesday 22 June 2005. The MCSD members are mainly expected to review, finalise and propose for adoption to the Contracting Parties the MSSD report together with, if possible and if time allows, to adopt a brief report of the meeting with a summary of conclusions and decisions.

In addition to the information on progress related to some thematic issues and, as appropriate, their related findings and proposals, the agenda of the 10th MCSD meeting will focus on the following items, keeping in mind that the first priority concerns the finalisation of the MSSD report to which all necessary time during the period of the meeting would be allocated:

- The proposed draft MSSD report;
- The proposed set of indicators to follow the implementation of the Strategy;
- The programme of work of the MCSD over the next three biennia, giving due consideration to the contents of the MSSD, and to the global agenda and the Mediterranean context;
- A preliminary draft MSSD Political Declaration.

If time allows, the meeting would be informed about progress made and results achieved in relation to some other issues such as Local Governance and Management, ICAM Strategy and Protocol, the "Mediterranean Cultural Heritage and Sustainable Development" and on the "Sustainability Impact Assessment of the Euro-Mediterranean Free Trade Zone".

Moreover, upon request from some of the MCSD members, a database on the status of NSSDs, or alike, in the Mediterranean has been prepared, together with a database on the "Type II Partnership Initiatives" that involve Mediterranean countries. Both databases, which would be regularly updated and completed, are presented for information in Annexes III and IV respectively.

Drawing lessons from previous experience in MCSD meetings, all sessions of the MCSD meeting will be held in plenary; however, if the need arises for ad hoc sessions to discuss the draft Declaration, the programme of work or the Indicators, a separate space would be made available but without interpretation facilities.

Finally, in response to the request of the MCSD and in conformity with the decision of the Contracting Parties, a junior "Sustainable Development Officer" was appointed for a limited period; French national, Mr. Teboul joined the Secretariat of MAP in 1st of March 2005 to provide assistance to MCSD/MSSD activities.

II. Brief history of the MCSD: benchmarks and decisions

Since new participants are attending the MCSD meeting, this section is regularly updated so as to provide basic summary information on MCSD activities and achievements since its inception and until the present meeting.

The post-Rio era was an important period in the history of the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) during which the Governments of the Mediterranean region and the European Community, in cooperation with concerned partners, started the process of translating and adapting UNCED principles to the Mediterranean context through the preparation of Agenda MED 21, reorientation of MAP, the Barcelona Convention and its protocols and the creation of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD). This commitment towards sustainable development in the region was further strengthened during the preparatory process for the WSSD and then the application at the regional level of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation that resulted in the preparation of a Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development, as well as National Strategies for Sustainable Development.

The MCSD was established in 1995 within the framework of MAP, as an advisory body with the following mandate:

- to identify, evaluate and examine major economic, ecological and social problems set out in Agenda MED 21, make appropriate proposals thereon to the meetings of the Contracting Parties, evaluate the effectiveness of the implementation of decisions taken by the Contracting Parties and facilitate the exchange of information among institutions implementing activities related to sustainable development in the Mediterranean;
- to enhance regional cooperation and rationalise the inter-governmental decision-making capacity in the Mediterranean basin for the integration of environment and development issues.

At their Extraordinary Meeting (Montpellier, 1-4 July 1996), the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention adopted the Terms of Reference and the Composition of the Commission. According to the Terms of Reference, the Commission is composed of 36 members, sitting on equal footing, consisting of high-level representatives from each of the Contracting Parties (21), representatives of local authorities, socio-economic actors and non-governmental organisations (15), working in the fields of environment and sustainable development.

During its first meeting (Rabat, December 1996), the Commission elected its first Steering Committee; it agreed on a programme built on activities corresponding to some of the priority needs of the Mediterranean region: sustainable management of coastal regions and management of water demand, sustainable development indicators, tourism, information, awareness and participation, free trade and environment, industry and sustainable development, management of urban and rural development.

The method of work consisted in organizing thematic Working Groups with Task Managers and Support Centres to deal with each selected theme. The MAP funds allocated to the MCSD will be considered as seed money since the Task Managers and Support Centres were expected to look for the necessary additional human and financial resources and expertise for the activities of the thematic Working Groups.

The second meeting of the Commission (Palma de Majorca, May 1997) has mainly reviewed progress achieved and problems encountered since its first meeting.

At their third meeting (Sophia Antipolis, October 1997) the members of the MCSD agreed upon sets of recommendations and proposals for action related to management of water demand and sustainable management of coastal zones, together with MCSD's draft rules of procedure, before presenting them to the Contracting Parties that adopted them at their tenth meeting (Tunis, November 1997).

At its fourth meeting (Monaco, October 1998) the Commission examined the progress made by the six "medium-term" thematic Working Groups, as well as issues related to follow-up of recommendations, new themes, method of work and cooperation with UN agencies and other partners. Moreover and in conformity with the MCSD's specific rules of procedure, a new Steering Committee was elected.

The fifth meeting of the MCSD (Rome, July 1999) discussed the preparatory process of the Strategic Review and agreed on sets of recommendations and proposals for action related to "Sustainable Development Indicators" and "Information, Awareness, Environmental Education and Participation"; the ones related to "Tourism and Sustainable Development" were reviewed and finalized some weeks later; they were then all presented to the 11th meeting of the Contracting Parties (Malta, October 1999) who adopted the three sets of recommendations.

At the sixth meeting of the MCSD (Tunis November 2000), the fifteen new members representing the three Major Groups took over; the meeting examined the Strategic Review and its recommendations and proposals for action, as well as a draft "Tunis Declaration"; this meeting comprised an important High Level Segment with the participation of several Ministers of the Environment; it was also the occasion for a very animated debate on the follow up of MCSD proposals, possible new issues and method of work, preparing the ground for relevant discussions in the next MCSD and Contracting Parties meetings.

At its first Extraordinary Meeting (Monaco, 12 November 2001), the organization of which was decided because of the international situation and the holding of the 12th meeting of the Contracting Parties (Monaco, 14-17 November 2001), the MCSD members discussed and prepared four sets of findings and proposals related to: "Industry and Sustainable Development", "Urban management and Sustainable Development", "Free Trade and Environment in the Euro-Mediterranean context", and "Implementation and Follow up of MCSD recommendations and proposals for action"; proposed recommendations were then reviewed and approved by the 12th meeting of the Contracting Parties.

The seventh meeting of the MCSD (Antalya, March 2002) was postponed from October 2001 to March 2002 because of the international situation and its impacts at the regional level; as the thematic issues from the Working Groups were dealt with by the Extraordinary MCSD meeting, the 7th MCSD has mostly focused on MCSD Assessment and Prospects, and the process for the preparation of the "Framework Orientations" for a Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development. The meeting agreed on a methodology for the "Orientations", decided to establish a Task Force to consider further MCSD Prospects, and opted for few new themes (financing, agriculture, consumption patterns and waste).

The eighth meeting of the MCSD (Cavtat, May 2003) has mainly focussed on discussing and reviewing the draft reports on the "Vision" and "Orientations" for the MSSD together with the MCSD assessment and prospects. Between this meeting and the one of the Contracting Parties, an intensive work was undertaken so as to review and finalise documents on the Vision and Orientations. A set of recommendations related to the MCSD were adopted by the 13th meeting of the CP in November 2003, in which the Parties took note of the contents

of these two documents, and requested additional consultation before their finalisation. These consultations took place during the first semester of 2004 with meetings of the MCSD and the Bureau of the CP.

The ninth meeting of the MCSD (Genoa, June 2004) has approved the final text of the Vision and Framework Orientations for the MSSD, including few amendments made upon request for comments in conformity with the decision of the 13th meeting of the CP; it also discussed the preparatory process for the MSSD, under the supervision of the new Coordinator of UNEP/MAP. A medium term programme of work was considered, keeping in mind that it would be revised once the MSSD would be finalised and approved. A new Contracting Party, the Union State of Serbia and Montenegro, represented by Montenegro joined the MCSD that has now 37 members.

III. MCSD Steering Committee

In conformity with the Commission's Rules of Procedure, a new Steering Committee would be elected at the beginning of the 10th MCSD meeting. In principle, it would include the Host and co-organizer of the meeting, and the President of the Contracting Parties, respectively the representatives of Greece and Italy, keeping in mind that the new President of the Bureau of the CP, the representative of Slovenia, will take over after the next meeting of the CP next November; therefore, two other members from the Contracting Parties and one member from each of the Major Groups need to be designated.

The list of present and previous members of the Steering Committees is attached in annex VII of the present report.

MCSD members have been requested by email/fax on the 3rd of June 2005 to inform the Secretariat before the MCSD meeting about their interest in joining the Steering Committee.

In order to assist and advise the Secretariat on progress on inter-sessions activities, the Steering Committee of the MCSD met in Rome, Italy (9th Session, 17-18 January 2005) to mainly review a draft of the MSSD report and also to discuss progress and advise on the preparation and use of the Strategic Thematic Notes as well as the review of and support to NSSDs.

IV. MSSD preparatory process and MSSD draft report

1. MSSD Preparatory Process

Following the conclusions and decisions of the 9th Meeting of the MCSD (Genoa, 17-19 June 2004), mainly concerning the preparation of the MSSD and in particular the flexibility given to the Coordinating Unit "to set up working groups or hire consultants as it sees fit", as well as using the expertise and information available at the Regional Activity Centres "in order to avoid duplication of efforts and save human and financial resources", a working session between MAP components was organized in early July 2004 to discuss and decide about the MSSD preparatory process and respective responsibilities. As a result, the Coordinator has requested the Director of BP/RAC to ensure the technical preparation of the draft report with the cooperation of all MAP components and under his supervision. To that end, a substantial financial amount was allocated to BP/RAC from MAP/MCSD budget so as to allow the Centre to get additional technical support to assist in the preparation of the draft MSSD, without affecting the progress in implementing its own programme of work.

A structure for the MSSD report, together with a road map was agreed upon and it was decided to prepare a short MSSD report, of about 30 pages. A senior consultant was hired by BP/RAC together with a junior professional for a short-term period. A preliminary draft MSSD report (version 1) was prepared and submitted to MAP components for a first internal consultation. A revised draft (version 2) was then prepared and submitted to a Peer Review meeting that took place on 6 December 2004 at BP/RAC premises. Peer Reviewers were highly qualified experts on Mediterranean and Sustainable Development issues, coming from various Mediterranean countries and the EC (Sustainable Development Unit of DG Environment).

Consequently to the interesting, interactive and useful Peer Review meeting, the draft report went through substantial changes and improvements. An almost new report (version 3) was then prepared and submitted to the MCSD Steering Committee, during its meeting on 17-18 January 2005 in Rome. This revised MSSD report was thoroughly discussed through its structure and contents, and the members of the Steering Committee proposed practical steps for improving it and enhancing its quality and relevance.

Soon after the meeting of the Steering Committee, a new revised report (version 4) of the MSSD was prepared and forwarded to MCSD members and partners for comments during the months of February and March 2005 in view of the MSSD regional workshop that was organised from 5 to 7 April 2005 in Rome, the cost of which was co-shared by Italy and UNEP/MAP. This workshop was attended by most of the MCSD members, with in general two representatives on behalf of the member countries, from environment and other concerned institutions, as well as by a large number of Partners from regional and international organisations.

This workshop turned out to be very useful with a very active participation and practical proposals for revising and improving the MSSD draft report. It should be noted that an intensive consultation process at various levels preceded this regional workshop:

- In the countries which submitted detailed and constructive comments;
- By the NGOs that catalysed interest and organised consultation workshops in nine countries (Spain, France, Italy, Greece, Israel, Lebanon, Egypt, Tunisia and Morocco), during the month of February 2005;
- By the NGOs again that organised a regional workshop on 12-14 March 2005 in Rome.

Both NGOs consultations at national and regional levels were induced and coordinated by Friends of the Earth/MedNet, in close cooperation with the UNEP/MAP-MCSD Secretariat, and with the financial support of Italy and UNEP/MAP. It is important to recognize here the very active and useful role the Mediterranean NGOs have played throughout the preparatory process of the MSSD. As a matter of fact, an appeal for a high level political support, in particular for the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership, was prepared and forwarded to concerned Ministers and Directors at EC; this pro-active campaign from the NGOs in favour of the MSSD has been until now a very useful means for awareness raising and political support. This campaign for MSSD support is expected to continue until the 14th meeting of the Contracting parties and the 10th Anniversary of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership, both of them during November 2005.

Following this important regional MCSD/MSSD workshop and the various comments and proposed amendments, the draft MSSD report was revised once more (version 5) and submitted to another Peer Review working session that was held in Sophia Antipolis on the 4th of June. Subsequently, a final draft report (version 6) was prepared and forwarded to the attention of the MCSD members and concerned partners as main working document for the

10th meeting of the MCSD, and to the MAP Focal Points for information; it was also uploaded on the website of UNEP/MAP for larger public consultation.

Through the provision of specific inputs and proposals, as well as thorough comments on the draft versions, MAP components have been closely associated with the preparation of the MSSD draft report that has used as main reference information documents the "Vision" and "Framework Orientations" for Sustainable Development in the Mediterranean, the Strategic Thematic Notes, as well as the Report on Environment and Development together with other MAP information documents (such as SAP Med, SAP-Bio, "REMPEC Strategy", ICAM reports) and relevant information from other institutions such as UN Institutions, EC, The World Bank, METAP and the NGOs.

This important draft MSSD document has been printed separately from the Secretariat report, as document UNEP(DEC)/MED WG. 277/3; moreover, "Vision" and "Framework Orientations" for the MSSD together with the "Strategic Thematic Notes" are all accessible through our web site: www.unepmap.org

2. Strategic Thematic Notes

Following the decision of the 9th meeting of the MCSD "requesting the participants to send their comments and inputs on the thematic notes", the Secretariat has been communicating with MCSD members to induce them in organizing national consultation processes so as to be able to review and comment on the eight thematic notes. Several MCSD members and MAP components submitted comments and inputs, and in at least 2 cases there has been a wide national consultation process, involving all concerned ministries and national commissions for sustainable development.

Giving due consideration to all comments and inputs received, the thematic notes were thoroughly revised, edited, improved and presented all in, as far as possible, a similar form. They attempt to present in a concise manner, diagnosis, stakes and challenges, objectives, means and actors. These notes, not intended to be approved, would be regularly updated and improved, and at a later stage, published and widely disseminated. They constitute a useful reference for more detailed orientations and actions in relation with the MSSD priority fields of actions.

Throughout the MSSD preparatory process, the 8 priority issues as identified in the "Framework Orientations" became 7 in the MSSD as "energy" and "climate change" were put together; meanwhile, the Thematic Notes were almost finalized but this difference does not affect cross-referencing and consultation. These notes are accessible through our web site.

3. MSSD draft report, indicators and follow up

The MSSD draft report (document UNEP(DEC)/MED WG. 277/3) will be presented and discussed during the MCSD meeting; most of the time will be devoted to this report in view of its finalization at the end of the meeting, before forwarding it to the MAP Focal Points, the Contracting Parties and their Partners.

As previously requested, a set of indicators has been prepared and annexed to the MSSD draft report; apart from a few general indicators, some 33 indicators have been identified, out of which 25 concern the seven priority fields of action and 8 are related to the mobilization of actors, the implementation of the Strategy and its monitoring. While reviewing them, it is important to keep this list as short as possible so as to be able to have an overall picture of the situation and its evolution, keeping in mind that other indicators would be added when dealing more in-depth with a specific issue.

In another annex, the MSSD report includes a matrix on the synergies between the objectives and the priority fields of action; it attempts to clarify how the proposed thematic orientations and actions respond and contribute to the four main objectives of the MSSD; moreover and where appropriate, reference was made to related indicators as they appear in corresponding annex.

The purpose of this report by the Secretariat is to present possible follow up steps; soon after the report is finalized and approved by the MCSD in June, a large and pro-active process will be initiated at regional and national levels, with the following objectives:

- To secure political support and ownership by the Contracting Parties;
- To ensure that the Contracting Parties commit themselves in the implementation of the MSSD by identifying a series of measures that would be taken and actions that would be undertaken, and make respective proposals during the next meeting of the CP in November 2005 in Slovenia;
- To induce partners from Major Groups, notably concerned Inter-Governmental Organizations and Non-Governmental Organizations, to endorse the MSSD, making adequate reference to and use of its contents and proposals in their respective strategies and programmes of work;
- To secure full recognition and support, with adequate means for implementation, from main international and regional institutions, such as the EU and the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership, the World Bank, the GEF, UN Agencies and Programmes, the League of Arab States and Arab Development Funds;

To that end, the UNEP/MAP-MCSD Secretariat would look for inducing the Contracting Parties to initiate such processes, and to mobilize necessary means; a follow up mechanism will be defined and applied during the months of September and October before the 14th meeting of the CP. As appropriate, the NGOs will be providing support in awareness raising and mobilization of actors and actions for political support and commitments by concerned authorities and partners.

Considering the time left until the next meeting of the CP, it would be extremely important to finalize the MSSD report at the end of the MCSD meeting; to that end, it is essential, considering all the versions that were already prepared and all the consultations that were held to continuously improve the MSSD report, that MCSD members and partners contribute in a constructive manner by proposing clear, short and pertinent amendments that would still improve this document and make it, as far as possible more pertinent, more operational, more realistic and more policy relevant.

V. National Strategies for Sustainable Development, status and progress

1. Assistance to the preparation of NSSD

Following the decision of the 12th meeting of the Contracting Parties requesting countries to prepare National Strategies for Sustainable Development, and in order to ensure a high level of synergy between the MSSD and National Strategies, as decided at the 9th meeting of the MCSD, the Secretariat has been looking for and providing technical and financial support to several Mediterranean countries for the preparation of their NSSDs.

To that end, and considering the limited funds available in UNEP/MAP budget, the Secretariat has submitted requests for assistance and received the kind financial support of Italy and Monaco that complements MTF funds to support the preparation of NSSDs in

Egypt, Montenegro, Morocco and Syria. Consultations with Spain/AZAHAR Cooperation Programme are going on, as a positive and very encouraging response was received; the process for finalizing this kind support would be concluded in the next few months and it is expected to contribute to the preparation of NSSDs in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Lebanon and Tunisia, as well as to the organization of a regional workshop on NSSDs that would be held during the second quarter of 2006.

The preparation of these National Strategies would be usually done over one year; additional support is being looked for from other regional and international actors such as UNDP, GTZ, and Arab Funds. UNDP has already accepted to join and co-support the preparation of the NSSD for Montenegro. Related work has been initiated for the NSSDs of Montenegro and Syria, including achievements in stocktaking, political support, mobilization of partners and initiating the consultations process; respective draft Visions and Framework Orientations were prepared, and first workshops organized. Regarding Morocco and Egypt, the work has just been initiated. Concerning the four other countries, the preparatory process would be initiated soon after the final confirmation from Spain, hopefully by next October.

In this context, the MAP-MCSD has been cooperating with UN-DESA/CSD in the organization and facilitation of a Regional Workshop on NSSDs in the Arab countries. Considering our comparative advantage of working in the framework of UNEP/MAP and its MCSD, the Secretariat has been able to collect and assess relevant information from a majority of Mediterranean countries, information which was of great interest to the UN-CSD that is expecting to receive progress reports on the preparation of NSSDs from all countries in conformity with the decisions of the WSSD.

To assist the Countries in their endeavour, terms of reference for these NSSDs have been prepared and proposed to the countries requesting them to secure country ownership and strong political commitment, as well as broad participation with a focus on strategic realistic objectives and means of implementation. The following preparatory process was designed and forwarded to concerned countries for the preparation of their NSSDs; it constitutes a guiding framework with a series of recommended steps and actions as presented hereunder:

- Stocktaking: Undertake a survey and prepare an assessment of activities/programmes/policies/institutions related to environment and development that are relevant to sustainable development, including the analysis of achievements, constraints and needs towards promoting a National Strategy for Sustainable Development;
- Political Support: Secure high level political support for the preparation of the National Strategy for Sustainable Development together with national ownership (not just a report to be prepared by a group of experts) by contacting and briefing all relevant National Institutions, some of them to be then partner in the Steering Committee;
- Partners: Identify major stakeholders, define and establish a consultation mechanism promoting participatory approach involving public, private and civil society sectors, as well as a representative of active Regional and International Organizations;
- Consultation Mechanism: Designate and establish a national multidisciplinary team of experts from public, private and civil society, corresponding to the national sustainable development stakes, challenges and priorities. Constituted as a Steering Committee that would meet regularly (at least 4 times until the finalization of the NSSD) to review progress, it could be composed of 8 to 10 members from major ministries, private sector/chambers of commerce, NGOs, Universities and research institutes. These members could also be considered as experts that would also be requested to

prepare certain reports as per their qualifications in addition to their active participation in the discussions;

- Preparation of the NSSD: Design the preparatory process with inputs, consultations, outputs and timetable that should encompass at least the following:
 - a. Preparation of a brief National Vision for Sustainable Development;
 - b. Preparation of a brief Framework Orientations document;
 - c. Identification and preparation of specific contributions as inputs to the NSSD;
 - d. Preparation of a NSSD document (20-25 pages);
 - e. Regular consultations between stakeholders and members of the Steering Committee to review progress;
 - f. Definition of implementation and follow-up measures and indicators;
 - g. Organizations of national workshops to launch the preparation, to review the progress, ensure public participation and finalize the NSSD report.

Once the Vision and Framework Orientations were finalized, the Thematic Notes prepared and the elaboration of the MSSD initiated, the Secretariat has started consultations with countries on NSSDs, so as to ensure that the NSSD preparatory process will follow the MSSD preparatory process and consequently benefit from its results. Actually, when the MSSD will be finalised at the MCSD meeting, none of the 8 countries referred to here above would have made substantial progress in preparing their respective NSSD besides the vision and orientations for some of them.

Consequently, the difference in the timing of the respective regional and national processes would allow the countries to give due consideration to MSSD objectives and proposed orientations and actions when preparing their National Strategies. Furthermore, it is hoped that existing NSSDs would also give due consideration to MSSD contents and related commitments throughout the revision process and updating of these National Strategies.

2. Regional Review and Assessment of the NSSDs in the Mediterranean

Following the request by several Contracting Parties and MCSD members to assess the status of activities in the Region in relation to sustainable development, in particular the establishment of National Commissions for Sustainable Development and the preparation of National Strategies, a Regional Review and Assessment has been carried out between July 2004 and March 2005; a draft report has been prepared and sent to representatives of MCSD country members and Contracting Parties for comments in December 2004. Since then the document was reviewed and improved with additional information.

This review was based on information available, accessible through the web or made available by countries in response to a questionnaire and draft country profiles. Most of the countries have responded positively, actively contributing to this Regional Review and Assessment by providing comments and useful documents.

This draft Regional Review and Assessment will be made available for information as document UNEP(DEC)/ MED WG. 277/Inf.1. It still presents gaps that need to be filled as soon as updated information is provided; as such, it already shows that there are only a few coordinated sustainable development activities in the countries and a limited number of National Commissions for Sustainable Development are in place. However, there is evidence that awareness is progressing quickly and that major steps are expected in many countries.

From this Regional Assessment, Guidelines for Strategic Frameworks for Sustainable Development were prepared, using existing methodologies (OECD/UNDP and UN-DESA/CSD) and drawing lessons from Mediterranean and other experiences. These Guidelines, including as part 5 of the Regional Review Report, are being used for the preparation of the NSSDs, keeping in mind that they would be adapted, as appropriate, to each national context.

Moreover, this report includes brief draft "Country Profiles" that need to be reviewed and regularly updated so as to keep on having an accurate picture, as much as possible, of the sustainable development processes, institutions and actions in a given Mediterranean Country and in the overall region. Once the present revision process is completed the document will be made available on the web site with the objective of regularly updating the contents of the country profiles and of the Assessment, if possible on a yearly basis. The Secretariat will contact countries and concerned partners at a later stage, requesting revised and updated information.

VI. MCS D Thematic Issues by MAP Components

Working mainly on the finalization of the Report on Environment and Development (RED) and on the preparation of the draft MSSD report, BP/RAC has also been contributing, in the context of "Free-Trade and Environment" to the Sustainability Impact Assessment launched by the EC; the Centre has further improved analysis and knowledge, together with FAO, on the rural development issues. It has also induced 3 countries, Morocco, Tunisia and France to prepare a strategy and efficiency plans for water management as a follow up to the recommendation of the "Water Demand Management". Finally, BP/RAC has been working on the set of indicators for identifying appropriate indicators for the MSSD follow up.

Following the MCS D recommendation on "Coast Management", PAP/RAC has prepared a draft Protocol on ICAM in the Mediterranean that will be presented to the next meetings of the MAP Focal Points and the Contracting Parties; it time allows a brief presentation could be made during the meeting to inform the members about the progress of work. Moreover, the Centre has worked on the issue of "Local Management and Governance" for which a position paper has been prepared in cooperation with CEDARE.

As a follow up to MCS D recommendation on "Industry", CP/RAC has prepared and published, in several languages, a practical brochure on Best Environmental Techniques (BETs) and Best Available Practices (BAPs) for the promotion of cleaner technologies. The Centre has also contributed to the establishment of a Cleaner Production Centre in Bosnia and Herzegovina, to the promotion of sustainable standards within companies and to the promotion of transfer of knowledge through practical publications and workshops.

Even though it had not been contributing directly to MCS D activities, REMPEC has been involved in the preparation of the MSSD together with all other MAP Components; in particular the Regional Strategy on Prevention of and Response to Marine Pollution from ships has been prepared while giving due consideration to the MSSD.

VII. MCS D Programme of Work

As presented in the above section on MCS D Thematic Issues, several MCS D activities are on going, such as "Free Trade and Environment" and "Financing and Cooperation for Sustainable Development", "Local Governance" and "Rural Development". For other issues, for which recommendations and proposals for action were already prepared and adopted, a series of follow up activities are ongoing, on issues related to the "Management of Water

Demand”, “Sustainable Development Indicators”, “Industry and Sustainable Development”, “Integrated Coastal Zone Management” and “Information, Awareness and Public Participation”. These are being undertaken by concerned Support Centres and/or previous Task Managers.

At the 9th MCSD meeting, a medium term programme of work was proposed and endorsed, keeping in mind that it “would be re-assessed once the MSSD had been adopted”.

Considering the importance of the MSSD, a lot of attention was given to the preparation of the draft report since July 2004 by all concerned UNEP/MAP-MCSD components and mainly the Secretariat and BP/RAC. Considering the priority issues defined in the MSSD report, Chapter II, together with the cross cutting issues that are included in Chapter III, it is proposed to structure the next Programme of Work of the MCSD, at least for the next six year on these priority issues while keeping some room for flexibility for emerging issues or if specific attention is needed on one of the previous issues, with the last year to the overall review of the MSSD.

For all the issues to be included in the MCSD programme of work, the results of the intensive work undertaken for the preparation of the MSSD, the Report on Environment and Development, the ICAM Protocol, the “REMPEC” Strategy, the SAP/MED and the SAP/BIO, as well as relevant information accessible from other sources will be extensively used so as to shorten as much as possible the analytical period and devote more attention to the Strategic and Policy aspects, focussing more on the implementation means and governance issues with more practical proposals for action. As far as possible and depending on the availability of means, regional and/or sub-regional fora will be organised so as to ensure a larger participation of concerned experts and better communication of the results.

The proposed programme for the next six years is attached to this report as Annex I.

As appropriate and useful, the issues proposed will be dealt with during the same period as the UN-CSD; and as in the case with the CSD, we would have the first year for review and the second for policy issues, unless the whole issue could be covered in one year, when enough analytical information is already available. For most of these issues, working groups of 5 to 8 qualified experts from MCSD members together with 2 to 3 qualified representatives of Partners and Observers will be constituted with the support of concerned MAP components and other relevant institutions.

It would be necessary during the MCSD meeting to review the proposed programme and method of work, and decide on next steps, including at least, the designation of Support Centres and Task Managers for the cluster of thematic issues for the next biennium.

Finally, in order to deal efficiently with this new programme of work based on mainly MCSD priority fields of actions while giving due consideration to as many cross-cutting issues as possible, for each one of the themes selected in the programme of work, up to four subjects would be dealt with during one year, with corresponding four working groups, with six issues for 2006/2007 so as to be able to devote the year 2010/11 to the overall review of the MSSD. However, considering that the Mediterranean context is quickly evolving and changing, and recalling the main function of the MCSD as a forum and Advisory Body for sustainable development in the Region, this multi-year programme of work should leave room for flexibility and for dealing with other issues as the need arises, such as for: revisiting previous MCSD recommendations (indicators, free-trade, financing and cooperation) or for specific crosscutting issues (education, research and development, capacity building, means of implementation) or for emerging issues.

VIII. MSSD Political Declaration

Besides the MSSD report, the MSSD “package” will include the Vision and Framework Orientations as additional reference policy documents together with the Thematic Notes and the Report on Environment and Development as reference information documents. However in order to secure higher political support and stronger endorsement of the Strategy, and in order to ensure commitment from the Contracting Parties in implementing the MSSD, a Political Declaration will be elaborated focussing on the main political messages that emerge from the MSSD and the most determinant commitments that would derive from the Strategy.

A very preliminary draft text would be presented during the MCSD meeting and, if possible, forwarded to MCSD members a few days before the meeting. Even though this political declaration would be finalized and submitted for approval at the next meeting of the Contracting Parties, it is recommended to already make appropriate use of such a draft Political Declaration to seek endorsement to the MSSD in the period until the next meeting of the MAP Focal Points and the meeting of the Contracting Parties where it is expected to be adopted.

IX. Eleventh meeting of the MCSD

In addition to progress on and follow up of the implementation of the new programme of work, the eleventh MCSD meeting would review the progress of “implementation” of the MSSD in particular its effective endorsement by the countries and concerned partners together with the specific measures and actions taken in conformity with the commitments to be made at the MCSD and mainly at the next meeting of the Contracting Parties. Moreover, the eleventh MCSD meeting would review the progress of the preparation and/or implementation of National Strategies on Sustainable Development. In its provisional agenda, this meeting could also consider the issue of “Partnership Initiatives” in the Mediterranean, mainly the ones that have been or could be launched in relation to the implementation of the MSSD.

It is proposed to have the next MCSD meeting in June 2006, probably for 3 days of work and a half-day for the approval of the conclusion and decisions. Concerning the venue, the Secretariat has received an informal expression of interest from Cyprus. In any case it will be important to decide on the date and venue during the meeting in Athens keeping in mind that the overall cost for a MCSD meeting is about 100.000 Euros depending on the hosting country and city; the expected cost-sharing would be:

- At least two thirds of the overall cost by an EU country, a Local Authority in an EU country or a private sector partner;
- At least one third of the overall cost by other Mediterranean countries and an NGO partner.

Annex I

Proposed MCSD programme of work

During the last 10 years, the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD) covered the following priority issues built on activities corresponding to some of the priority needs of the Mediterranean region:

- Sustainable management of coastal zones
- Management of water demand
- Sustainable development indicators
- Sustainable tourism
- Information, public awareness, environmental education and public participation
- Free trade and the environment in the Euro-Mediterranean Context
- Industry and sustainable development
- Management of urban development

For each one of these priorities issues, Working Groups were established with mostly the support of MAP Components, respective sets of recommendations and proposals for action were prepared and submitted to the Contracting Parties meetings that generally adopted them with minor amendments in some cases.

Then, considering the importance of the issue, it was agreed to work on "Financing and cooperation for sustainable development" for which a Working Group was established, resulting in an in-depth analysis with a series of proposals.

Moreover, while following the implementation of some of the recommendations by concerned MAP components, such as "water", "coastal management", "industry" and "indicators", the MCSD members agreed that, until a new programme of work is defined, the following issues could be considered without necessarily establishing at this stage specific Working Groups; These concern:

- Local management and governance
- Agriculture and rural development
- Waste management
- Management and prevention of natural risks

Actually, some progress was made with regard to the first two issues, respectively by PAP/RAC and BP/RAC. These would need to be considered in the framework of the new MCSD programme of work.

Following the proposals of the MCSD and in conformity with the decision of the Contracting Parties, a Mediterranean Strategy on Sustainable Development (MSSD) has been prepared. The strategy outlines the main needs and challenges in the region and identifies four major objectives and sets of actions to be carried out in seven priority fields of action as follows:

- Better management of water resources and demand
- Better management of energy demand and the mitigation of the effects of climate change
- Sustainable mobility through appropriate transport management
- Sustainable tourism as a leading economic sector
- High quality agriculture and sustainable rural development
- Sustainable urban development
- Sustainable management of the sea, coastal areas and marine resources.

The proposed multi-year programme of work for the MCSD gives due consideration to the objectives/orientations and actions proposed for the seven interdependent priority areas of action of the MSSD, the Millennium Development Goals, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and the UNCSD Programme of work, and their adaptation to the Mediterranean context.

The UNCSD's multi-year programme of work is as follows:

<i>Cycle</i>	<i>Thematic cluster</i>
2004/2005	Water; Sanitation; Human Settlements
2006/2007	Energy; Industrial Development; Climate change
2008/2009	Agriculture; Rural Development; Desertification
2010/2011	Transport; Waste Management; Consumption and Production
2012/2013	Biodiversity; Biotechnology; Tourism; Mountains
2014/2015	Marine Resources
2016/2017	Overall appraisal of implementation

The new programme of work for the MCSD will cover the next 6 years, organized on the basis of two-year cycles, with each cycle focusing on selected thematic clusters of issues from the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development, as set out in the table below.

In each cycle, the thematic clusters of issues will be addressed in an integrated manner, taking into account multiple challenges, including those related to environment and culture, but also demographic, economic and social concerns and finally globalisation, regional cooperation and governance.

As for the UNCSD programme of work, the MCSD will function on the basis of two-year "Implementation Cycles", including Review and Policy Years. The "Review" year of the cycle will evaluate progress made in implementing sustainable development goals and identifying constraints, obstacles and barriers. The second year, the "Policy" one, will define policy measures to speed up implementation and mobilize necessary means for action to overcome these constraints, obstacles and barriers.

However, for issues for which MAP and its partners have already cumulated enough analytical knowledge, such as for water, marine pollution and coastal management, the first year of the cycle could be devoted immediately to Policy issues and the second year would concentrate on pilot actions.

The purpose is to consider each issue in the overall framework of the MSSD and in an integrated manner, a series of Cross-Cutting issues should be given due account, as appropriate, throughout the Review and Policy Years and corresponding proposals; these cross-cutting issues, as presented in the last column of the tables, concern mainly governance and implementation mechanisms and means.

It is proposed to have about 4 thematic issues per biennium (up to 6 in 2006/2007 so as to allow for the preparation of the overall review in 2010/11) that could be dealt with as follows:

- Concerned MAP Components would be leading Centres and interested Regional Partners would act as Support Centers.
- In any case, concerned MAP Components will be associated with all issues.
- Working groups would be established, with 5 to 8 qualified experts from the MCSD members together with 2 to 3 qualified experts from Partners and Observers; 1 or 2 task managers would be designated to coordinate the activities and work closely with the Support Centres.
- Together with the Support Centres, the Task Managers will be looking for mobilizing financial resources, in addition to the generally limited MAP/MCSD funds that would be used as seed and catalysing funds.
- The Task Manager(s), together with the Support Centres would have to define, as soon as possible, the specific issues to be dealt with. To that end, the MSSD objectives, orientations and actions, as well as other relevant documents would be given due consideration so as to adequately precise the tasks and terms of reference of concerned working groups in view of achieving relevant, realistic and practical results. In this regard,

inputs in columns 3,4 and 5, deriving from the MSSD report are given for information and orientation purposes.

The Thematic issue related to Sea, Coastal areas and Marine resources would be dealt within all biennia through a different component such as Marine Pollution/ Maritime Pollution/ Biodiversity or Coastal Zone Management.

The MCSD's work programme of each cycle will also revisit and deepen the previous sets of Recommendations and Proposals for Action. There will also be sufficient flexibility in the design of the future programme of work to define more operational proposals for actions and enable the MCSD to deal with urgent and important emerging issues.

It would be necessary during the MCSD meeting to review the proposed programme and method of work, and decide on next steps, including at least, the designation of Support Centres and Task Managers for the cluster of thematic issues for the next biennium.

PROPOSED MCSD PROGRAMME OF WORK					
Cycle	Thematic Cluster	Objectives/Orientations	Proposed Actions	Potential Support Centers	Cross-Cutting Issues
2005/2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water Resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stabilize water demand management • Integrated water resources management • Access to water and sanitation • Promote water management governance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review implementation of previous MCSD recommendations • Implement water saving techniques in irrigation and involving industry & tourism • Establish appropriate fiscal/pricing systems • Reduce unnecessary losses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BP/RAC • IME • CP/RAC • Other Partners to be identified 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approach and Partnership: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Integrated Approach - Participatory Approach - Governance - Civil society, NGOs & Private Sector • Means: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Education - Public Vs Private Resources - International Cooperation - Tax Related Resources - Debt Reconversion - Innovative Financial Means - Technological Transfer & Acquisition - Research & Development - Training & Capacity Building • Implementation and Follow-up: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Indicators - Information, Communication and Awareness raising - Pilot Actions - Partnership projects and Actions
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy & Climate Change 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote energy-saving policies and renewable energies • Access to electricity • Support Kyoto Protocol implementation • Adapt to climate change 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish overall and sectoral objectives for the promotion of rational energy use and the development of renewable energies in NSSD • Mainstream the concept of adaptation to climate change in national policies • Develop plans to anticipate risks and adapt the Mediterranean areas to climate change 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BP/RAC • MEDREP • OME • CP/RAC • Other Partners to be identified 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marine Pollution from ships 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevent and combat marine pollution from ships • Eliminate operational pollution from ships 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement the relevant specific objectives of the Regional Strategy for Prevention of and Response to Marine Pollution from ships, according to the related agreed timetable. • Increase of EU aid and support for its implementation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • REMPEC • Other Partners to be identified 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrated Coastal Area Management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote the balanced and integrated management & development of coastal zones • Guarantee unhindered access to the coast for everyone • Preserve, enhance or restore the coastal heritage • Avoid linear and continuous urbanization • Reduce the vulnerability of sensitive areas to natural risks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review implementation of previous MCSD recommendations • Strengthen systems and capacities for their implementation • Promote laws, mechanisms and tools for ICZM in countries which do not yet have them • Assess the vulnerability of coastal zones to natural and technological risks, prohibit construction in high-risk areas and integrate risk prevention into urban development plans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PAP/RAC • Other Partners to be identified 	

PROPOSED MCSD PROGRAMME OF WORK					
Cycle	Thematic Cluster	Objectives/Orientations	Proposed Actions	Potential Support Centers	Cross-Cutting Issues
2006/2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water Resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stabilize water demand management • Integrated water resources management • Access to water and sanitation • Promote water management governance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review implementation of previous MCSD recommendations • Implement water saving techniques in irrigation and involving industry & tourism • Establish appropriate fiscal/pricing systems • Reduce unnecessary losses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BP/RAC • IME • CP/RAC Other Partners to be identified? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approach and Partnership: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Integrated Approach - Participatory Approach - Governance - Civil society, NGOs & Private Sector • Means: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Education - Public Vs Private Resources - International Cooperation - Tax Related Resources - Debt Reconversion - Innovative Financial Means - Technological Transfer & Acquisition - Research & Development - Training & Capacity Building • Implementation and Follow-up: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Indicators - Information, Communication and Awareness raising - Pilot Actions - Partnership projects and Actions
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy & Climate Change 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote energy-saving policies and renewable energies • Access to electricity • Support Kyoto Protocol implementation • Adapt to climate change 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish overall and sectoral objectives for the promotion of rational energy use and the development of renewable energies in NSSD • Mainstream the concept of adaptation to climate change in national policies • Develop plans to anticipate risks and adapt the Mediterranean areas to climate change 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BP/RAC • MEDREP • OME • CP/RAC • Other Partners to be identified 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marine Pollution from ships 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevent and combat marine pollution from ships • Eliminate operational pollution from ships 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement the relevant specific objectives of the Regional Strategy for Prevention of and Response to Marine Pollution from ships, according to the related agreed timetable. • Request an increase of EU aid and support for its implementation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • REMPEC • Other Partners to be identified 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrated Coastal Area Management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote the balanced and integrated management & development of coastal zones • Guarantee unhindered access to the coast for everyone • Preserve, enhance or restore the coastal heritage • Avoid linear and continuous urbanization • Reduce the vulnerability of sensitive areas to natural risks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review implementation of previous MCSD recommendations • Strengthen systems and capacities for their implementation • Promote laws, mechanisms and tools for ICZM in countries which do not yet have them • Assess the vulnerability of coastal zones to natural and technological risks, prohibit construction in high-risk areas and integrate risk prevention into urban development plans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PAP/RAC • Other Partners to be identified 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quality Agriculture & Sustainable Rural Development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Controlled liberalization and the promotion of high quality Mediterranean products • Promote productive and rational agriculture • Improve rural development and local governance • Promote sustainable management of rural areas & the Mediterranean natural environment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a regional policy to enhance recognition of the quality of traditional Mediterranean agricultural products • Implement agricultural policies in developing countries aimed at rationalizing agricultural structures • Strengthen the negotiation and governance capacities of local communities and local actors • Reduce the impacts of desertification 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BP/RAC • CIAHEM • FAO • Other Partners to be identified 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable Tourism 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce the adverse territorial and environmental effects of tourism • Promote the supply of sustainable tourist facilities and increase the added value of tourism for local communities • Improve governance for sustainable tourism 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review implementation of previous MCSD recommendations • Promote a more balanced distribution of tourists between destinations and throughout the year • Develop “tourism pay-back” formula • Explore the possibility of implementing taxation systems based on transport (sea and air) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BP/RAC • PAP/RAC • Other Partners to be identified 	

PROPOSED MCSD PROGRAMME OF WORK					
Cycle	Thematic Cluster	Objectives/Orientations	Proposed Actions	Potential Support Centers	Cross-Cutting Issues
2007/2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quality Agriculture & Sustainable Rural Development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Controlled liberalization and the promotion of high quality Mediterranean products • Promote productive and rational agriculture • Improve rural development and local governance • Promote sustainable management of rural areas & the Mediterranean natural environment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a regional policy to enhance recognition of the quality of traditional Mediterranean agricultural products • Implement agricultural policies in developing countries aimed at rationalizing agricultural structures • Strengthen the negotiation and governance capacities of local communities and local actors • Reduce the impacts of desertification 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BP/RAC • CIAHEM • FAO • Other Partners to be identified 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approach and Partnership: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Integrated Approach - Participatory Approach - Governance - Civil society, NGOs & Private Sector • Means: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Education - Public Vs Private Resources - International Cooperation - Tax Related Resources - Debt Reconversion - Innovative Financial Means - Technological Transfer & Acquisition - Research & Development - Training & Capacity Building
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable Tourism 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce the adverse territorial and environmental effects of tourism • Promote the supply of sustainable tourist facilities and increase the added value of tourism for local communities • Improve governance for sustainable tourism 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review implementation of previous MCSD recommendations • Promote a more balanced distribution of tourists between destinations and throughout the year • Develop "tourism pay-back" formula • Explore the possibility of implementing taxation systems based on transport (sea and air) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BP/RAC • PAP/RAC • Other Partners to be identified 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approach and Partnership: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Integrated Approach - Participatory Approach - Governance - Civil society, NGOs & Private Sector • Means: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Education - Public Vs Private Resources - International Cooperation - Tax Related Resources - Debt Reconversion - Innovative Financial Means - Technological Transfer & Acquisition - Research & Development - Training & Capacity Building
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Marine Pollution : LBS Protocol 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevent and reduce land-based pollution by achieving the goals set out in the Strategic Action Programme to address Land-based Sources of Pollution, adopted in 1997 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement the National Action Plans for combating pollution from land-based sources • Reduce pollutants from industrial sources • Equip all coastal cities with systems for the environmental management of solid waste 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MEDPOL • CP/RAC • Other Partners to be identified 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approach and Partnership: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Integrated Approach - Participatory Approach - Governance - Civil society, NGOs & Private Sector • Means: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Education - Public Vs Private Resources - International Cooperation - Tax Related Resources - Debt Reconversion - Innovative Financial Means - Technological Transfer & Acquisition - Research & Development - Training & Capacity Building
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce the loss of marine and coastal biodiversity in the Mediterranean region • Bring Mediterranean fisheries under a comprehensive ecosystem-based management system • Restore depleted Mediterranean fish stocks • Regulate the development of aquaculture so as to minimize its impacts on the environment and marine and coastal biological diversity and conflicts with other uses of coastal areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote and complete the network of protected maritime and coastal areas • Promote the creation of new generations of protected areas • Establish at least 30 SPAMI at the end of 2012 • Ensure the coordination and synergy of activities carried out by international organizations and networks • Encourage fishery and aquaculture good practices respectful of conservation and sustainable use of marine and coastal biological diversity. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SPA/RAC • IUCN • Other Partners to be identified 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approach and Partnership: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Integrated Approach - Participatory Approach - Governance - Civil society, NGOs & Private Sector • Means: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Education - Public Vs Private Resources - International Cooperation - Tax Related Resources - Debt Reconversion - Innovative Financial Means - Technological Transfer & Acquisition - Research & Development - Training & Capacity Building

PROPOSED MCSD PROGRAMME OF WORK					
Cycle	Thematic Cluster	Objectives/Orientations	Proposed Actions	Potential Support Centers	Cross-Cutting Issues
2008/2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable Urban Development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anticipate and plan expected urban growth • Enhance the value of the heritage of Mediterranean cities • Improve the quality of life and reduce inequalities • Improve urban governance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review implementation of previous MCSD recommendations • Promote urban spatial planning which articulates transport planning policies • Promote the identity of Mediterranean cities internationally • Promote sustainable urban transport • Strengthen opportunities for political action at the urban level 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PAP/RAC • MEDCITIES • BP/RAC • Other Partners to be identified 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approach and Partnership: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Integrated Approach - Participatory Approach - Governance - Civil society, NGOs & Private Sector • Means: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Education - Public Vs Private Resources - International Cooperation - Tax Related Resources - Debt Reconversion - Innovative Financial Means - Technological Transfer & Acquisition - Research & Development - Training & Capacity Building • Implementation and Follow-up: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Indicators - Information, Communication and Awareness raising - Pilot Actions - Partnership projects and Actions
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable Transports 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve Euro-Mediterranean transport systems • Improve the integration of road, rail and sea transport • Decoupling transport growth & GDP growth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a sustainable Euro-Mediterranean transport framework • Support investment and incentive policies to stabilize or reduce the share of road transport and promote alternative transport systems • Reduce urban traffic congestion and pollution 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BP/RAC • REMPEC • Other Partners to be identified 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Marine Pollution : LBS Protocol 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevent and reduce land-based pollution by achieving the goals set out in the Strategic Action Programme to address Land-based Sources of Pollution, adopted in 1997 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement the National Action Plans for combating pollution from land-based sources • Reduce pollutants from industrial sources • Equip all coastal cities with systems for the environmental management of solid waste 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MEDPOL • CP/RAC • Other Partners to be identified 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce the loss of marine and coastal biodiversity in the Mediterranean region • Bring Mediterranean fisheries under a comprehensive ecosystem-based management system • Restore depleted Mediterranean fish stocks • Regulate the development of aquaculture so as to minimize its impacts on the environment and marine and coastal biological diversity and conflicts with other uses of coastal areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote and complete the network of protected maritime and coastal areas • Promote the creation of new generations of protected areas • Establish at least 30 SPAMI at the end of 2012 • Ensure the coordination and synergy of activities carried out by international organizations and networks • Encourage fishery and aquaculture good practices respectful of conservation and sustainable use of marine and coastal biological diversity. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SPA/RAC • IUCN • Other Partners to be identified 	

PROPOSED MCSD PROGRAMME OF WORK					
Cycle	Thematic Cluster	Objectives/Orientations	Proposed Actions	Potential Support Centers	Cross-Cutting Issues
2009/2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable Urban Development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anticipate and plan expected urban growth • Enhance the value of the heritage of Mediterranean cities • Improve the quality of life and reduce inequalities • Improve urban governance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review implementation of previous MCSD recommendations • Promote urban spatial planning which articulates transport planning policies • Promote the identity of Mediterranean cities internationally • Promote sustainable urban transport • Strengthen opportunities for political action at the urban level 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PAP/RAC • MEDCITIES • BP/RAC • Other Partners to be identified 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approach and Partnership: - Integrated Approach - Participatory Approach - Governance - Civil society, NGOs & Private Sector • Means: - Education - Public Vs Private Resources - International Cooperation - Tax Related Resources - Debt Reconversion - Innovative Financial Means
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable Transports 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve Euro-Mediterranean transport systems • Improve the integration of road, rail and sea transport • Decoupling transport growth & GDP growth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a sustainable Euro-Mediterranean transport framework • Support investment and incentive policies to stabilize or reduce the share of road transport and promote alternative transport systems • Reduce urban traffic congestion and pollution 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BP/RAC • REMPEC • Other Partners to be identified 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Energy & Climate Change 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote energy-saving policies and renewable energies • Access to electricity • Support Kyoto Protocol implementation • Adapt to climate change 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage economic actors and domestic consumers to adopt sustainable energy-saving habits and approaches • Encourage economic mechanisms/regulations designed to promote renewable energies • Support investment to improve access to electricity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MEDREP • OME • BP/RAC • CP/RAC • Other Partners to be identified 	

PROPOSED MCSD PROGRAMME OF WORK					
Cycle	Thematic Cluster	Objectives/Orientations	Proposed Actions	Potential Support Centers	Cross-Cutting Issues
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrated Coastal Area Management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote the balanced and integrated management & development of coastal zones • Guarantee unhindered access to the coast for everyone • Preserve, enhance or restore the coastal heritage • Avoid linear and continuous urbanization • Reduce the vulnerability of sensitive areas to natural risks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote integrated management approaches & projects for coastal zones & catchments areas • Implement specific plans for the sustainable management and development of islands • Prevent continuous and linear urbanization of coastal areas • Enhance the heritage of coastal areas, including traditional productive activities which form part of its identity, maintain agricultural and wooded green belts and establish ecological corridors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PAP/RAC • Other Partners to be identified 	<p>Financial Means</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Technological Transfer & Acquisition - Research & Development - Training & Capacity Building <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation and Follow-up: - Indicators - Information, Communication and Awareness raising - Pilot Actions - Partnership projects and Actions

PROPOSED MCSD PROGRAMME OF WORK					
Cycle	Thematic Cluster	Objectives/Orientations	Proposed Actions	Potential Support Centers	Cross-Cutting Issues
2010/2011			OVERALL REVIEW OF MSSD		

Annex II

Draft

Athens Charter on the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD)

(1) The members of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD) and their Partners, meeting in Athens, Greece from 20 to 22 June 2005,

or

(2) The Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean (Barcelona Convention), meeting in Portoroz, Slovenia from 8-11 November 2005, in the framework of the United Nations Environment Programme/Mediterranean Action Plan (UNEP/MAP),

Taking note of the outcomes and proposals of the 10th meeting of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD) Athens, Greece, 20-22 June 2005,

- Reaffirming the necessity for achieving Sustainable Development at regional, national and local levels, as well as the decisions taken in the Millennium Development Goals (MDG), the Mediterranean Declaration for the World Summit for Sustainable Development and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation,
- Recalling the commitments taken by the Mediterranean countries, the European Community and their Partners towards promoting sustainable development, in particular by adopting the various MCSD recommendations and proposals for action,
- Recalling again the Athens Declaration by the Euro-Mediterranean Ministers for the Environment in which it was recognized that the Barcelona Convention/Mediterranean Action Plan is the appropriate context for dealing with a Regional Strategy for Sustainable Development,
- Noting with satisfaction the recognition by the VIIth Euro-Mediterranean Conference of Ministers of Foreign Affairs that the MSSD will become an important vehicle for mainstreaming sustainable development throughout the Partnership,
- Convinced that the elaboration and implementation of strategies for sustainable development at regional and national levels are necessary for promoting equity and shared prosperity,
- Recognizing the importance of the integrated approach and the participatory approach throughout the preparatory and implementation process of sustainable development strategies together with access to information and pro-active communication,

- Emphasizing that the Mediterranean specificities require that due attention be given to the economic, social and environment pillars as well as to the cultural and governance pillars of sustainable development,
- Aware that the promotion of sustainable development in general and the protection of the environment in particular require more effective and rationalized cooperation with and between multilateral institutions and major groups, together with participation of NGOs and the private sector as active partners,
- Underlining the strategic importance of the six challenges that structure the common Vision for sustainable development in the Mediterranean,
- Concerned at the unsustainable production and consumption patterns as well as the various related social and environmental risks,
- Further concerned at the asymmetrical development and technological gap among Mediterranean countries as well as the financial constraints and the lack of entrepreneurial dynamism,
- Underlining the necessity for the sustainable development strategies to contribute to economic development by enhancing Mediterranean assets, to reduce social disparities by implementing the MDG, to change the unsustainable production and consumption patterns and ensure the sustainable management of natural resources, and improve governance at local, national and regional levels,

Agree that,

- Serious policy and institutional reforms together with the effective expansion of a culture of change will be required if sustainable development strategies are to be implemented,
- The policy options and practical actions for expediting implementation related to the priority fields of action should be internally-owned and integrated into National Strategies for Sustainable Development (NSSD) or national development plans,
- Contracting parties have the primary role and responsibility in making available and accessible relevant information and in promoting enabling environments with improved governance, active involvement of all stakeholders and developing adequate regulatory frameworks and measures,
- Appropriate initiatives by the Mediterranean Governments to contribute to the MSSD objectives and orientations and to implement related actions, should be supported by the international community, in particular the regional institutions, through a rationalized regional cooperation, an equitable multilateral trading system as well as meaningful trade liberalization,
- Efforts by Governments and regional actors to implement the MSSD at regional and national levels should be supported by an appropriate mobilization and

transfer of adequate financial resources, debt relief and innovative reconversion towards sustainable development actions, public-public and public-private partnerships, technological cooperation and capacity development, knowledge development with adequate research and development programmes,

(1) Call upon the Contracting Parties, their Partners, concerned Actors and Funding Agencies as appropriate,

or

(2) Decide:

- To adopt the MSSD,
- To prepare or update respective NSSDs,
- To provide necessary support for the implementation of Regional and National Strategies,
- To give due consideration to the MSSD objectives, orientations and proposed actions in their respective strategies, development plans and related actions,
- To define clearly their commitments in implementing the MSSD through specific projects at national and regional levels as well as through relevant partnership initiatives,
- To integrate sustainable development principles, in particular through adequate revision of the legal frameworks, and provide relevant human, technical and financial means for the implementation of the MSSD and NSSDs,
- To define a set of performance indicators and conduct a follow up and evaluation process together with an interactive consultation mechanism, to ensure larger ownership and stronger political support,
- To review progress of the implementation of MSSD at regional and national levels in not later than 5 years and take all necessary measures and actions for updating their Strategies and improving their implementation.
- To request the Partners, concerned Actors and Funding Agencies to actively contribute to the implementation of the MSSD and the respective NSSDs. **(to be deleted if option (1) is retained)**

Annex III

Database for status of the NSSDs or alike in the Mediterranean region

At the 12th Conference of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention (Monaco, November 2001), the 21 countries and the European Community decided to prepare a "Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development" (MSSD) as well as to develop "National Strategies for Sustainable Development" (NSSD) in the Mediterranean Region. The MSSD would serve as a "framework" and is expected to have a stimulating effect for NSSDs in the Mediterranean countries or for revising/updating the existing ones.

Last year, in close consultation with concerned countries and partners, a Regional Review and Assessment (RRA) of the NSSDs in the Mediterranean was undertaken from collected information summarized in this report, it appeared that a few countries have prepared NSSDs but that most of them have prepared various types of "Strategies" that contribute to sustainable development.

Upon request by some MCSD's members for brief and concise information on the NSSD and other initiatives in the Mediterranean region, the MAP-MCSD Secretariat has prepared the following database, using mainly the analysis and findings of the RRA and its country profiles on sustainable development related actions and institutions, but also the questionnaire of the Plan Bleu/Regional Activity Centre on indicators for sustainable development policies and strategies, as well as information collected from national websites.

This user-friendly database shows how the countries deal with Sustainable Development in the Mediterranean Region. The database is searchable by a variety of parameters such as any information related to NSSDs or similar actions and/or initiatives related to sustainable development (Poverty Reduction Plan, National Commissions and regional strategies by partner organizations, National Environment Action Plan, other relevant Strategic Frameworks, etc...), 22 Contracting Parties as well as a list of national websites on Environment and Sustainable Development issues.

Since October 2004, UNEP/MAP and its MCSD along with the kind assistance of Italy, Monaco and Spain/Azahar Programme is providing technical and financial support to a range of countries from South and East Mediterranean for the preparation of their NSSDs.

Up to date and according to the information listed on our database, 4 countries (France, Greece, Malta and Spain) have already prepared their own NSSD, whereas Morocco with support from Monaco as well as Egypt, Montenegro (on behalf of Serbia and Montenegro) and the Syrian Arab Republic with a support from Italy, are already engaged in the preparation of their NSSDs.

The MAP-MCSD Secretariat is awaiting for finalization of the preparation process for financial support to be received from Spain/Azahar Cooperation Programme before proposing support for the preparation of NSSDs in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Lebanon and Tunisia, as well as the organisation of a Regional workshop on NSSDs.

According to available information to UNEP/MAP, Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Cyprus, Egypt, France, Italy, Morocco, Slovenia, Syrian Arab Republic and Turkey have prepared National Environment Action Strategies and/or Plans (NEAPS) for Sustainable Development. NEAPS are usually assimilated to sustainable development strategies, particularly second generation NEAPS that give increased importance to social and economic considerations.

Other Mediterranean countries have prepared or initiated the development of relevant different strategic frameworks, action programmes or action plans inspired by sustainable development considerations and principles, such as:

- Strategic Frameworks (Strategy for the Environment, PRSP, National Agenda 21, etc...)
- Sectorial NSSD (on Climate Change, Energy, Water, Agriculture, etc...)
- Local initiatives related to Sustainable Development (Local Environment Action Plans, Local Agenda 21, etc...)

This provisional database is an on going process that needs to be regularly updated. It would be appreciated if the MCSD members provide the Secretariat with more accurate and complete information so as to review and finalize this table and before making it available on our web site.

National Strategies for Sustainable Development

	NSSD	National Environment Action Strategies and/or Plans	Other relevant Strategic Frameworks: Poverty Reduction Strategy Plan, etc...
Albania	Preparation of NSSD expected to start in 4th quarter 2005 over one year	NEAP (1993 + 2001)	Environmental Strategy Study (World Bank, 1993) + Management Program for Coastal zones (1996) + PRS (2001)
Algeria		National Action Plan for Environment and Sustainable Development (2002)	Strategy for the Environment + Strategy for Economic Revival (2001-2004)
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Preparation of NSSD expected to start in 4th quarter 2005 over one year	NEAP (2003)	PRSP (05/2004)
Croatia		NEAP (2002) + National Environmental Strategy	National Strategy and Action Plan for the Protection of Biological and Landscape Diversity + National Energy Strategy + National Tourism Strategy
Cyprus		Action Plan for the Protection of the Environment (1996) + National Programme for the Adoption of the Environmental Acquis Communautaire of the EU (2000, revised and extended in 2002)	Strategic Development Plan (2004-2006) + Strategy for the Environment (2005- 2010)
Egypt	NSSD under preparation	NEAP (2002-2017)	Development and Reconstruction Map of Egypt up to 2017 + National Agenda 21
France	NSSD (06/2003)	National Environment/Health Action Plans	
Greece	NSSD (2002)		
Israel			Coastal Area Management Programme (1996) + Strategic Plans for Sustainable Development in each Ministry (2003) + Sector Master Plans for Infrastructures and Protection of Natural Resources + National Master Plan for Development and Conservation
Italy		Environmental Strategy for Sustainable development (2002)	National Document for Economic and Financial Planning 2001-2004 + Environmental Action Strategy for Sustainable Development (approved in 2002)
Lebanon	Preparation of NSSD expected to start in 4th quarter 2005 over one year		PRS
Lybian Arab Jamahirrya			
Malta	NSSD has been drafted		Structure Plan for the Maltese Islands 1990 + National Development Plan 2004-2006
Monaco			

National Strategies for Sustainable Development

	NSSD	National Environment Action Strategies and/or Plans	Other relevant Strategic Frameworks: Poverty Reduction Strategy Plan, etc...
Morocco	NSSD under preparation	National Strategy for Environment and Sustainable Development (1995) + National Action Plan for Environment (1998)	National Plan for Economic and Social development (1999-2003) + National Charter for Land Management and Sustainable Development (2004)
Serbia and Montenegro	NSSD under preparation		Sustainable Strategy of the Ecological State of Montenegro (1996) + National Policy for Waste Management (December 2004) + PRSP + National Communication for UN Convention on Climate Changes (under preparation) + Master plan for tourism development in coastal zone of Montenegro + Master-plan for Solid Waste Management (under preparation)
Slovenia		NEAP (1999 + 2004)	Slovenian agri-environmental programme (2001) + Strategy for Economic development (2001-2006) + Environment in Slovenia 2002 + Strategy of tourism (2002) + Spatial Development Strategy of Slovenia (2004) + Development report (2002, 2003, 2004, 2005 (in preparation) + Action Plan for Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions (2004) + Strategy of Slovenia's Development (draft for public debate)
Spain	Draft NSSD (2002)		
Syrian Arab Republic	NSSD being prepared	NEAP (2001)	
Tunisia	Preparation of NSSD expected to start in 4th quarter 2005 over one year		10th Social and Economic Development Plan (2002-2006)
Turkey		NEAP (1998)	National Agenda 21 (finalised)

National Strategies for Sustainable Development

	Sectorial NSSD	Local initiatives related to Sustainable Development	Websites on Environment and Sustainable Development issues
Albania			http://enrin.grida.no/htmls/albania/soe/htmls/
Algeria			http://www.environnement-dz.org/
Bosnia and Herzegovina		Local Environment Action Plans (LEAPs)	http://www.neapbih.ba/ + www.azo.hr
Croatia		Local Agenda 21	http://www.mzopu.hr/default.aspx?lang=en + http://www.vlada.hr/default.asp?ru=2
Cyprus	SNSSD		http://www.pio.gov.cy/gov/ministry/magric/index.htm
Egypt			http://www.eeaa.gov.eg/
France	SNSSD on Climate Plan + National Strategy for Biodiversity + Social Cohesion Plan	Agenda 21 + PASE (Projets d'action strategiques de l'Etat in 2004)	http://www1.environnement.gouv.fr/rubrique.php3?id_rubrique=9 + www.ecologie.gouv.fr
Greece			http://www.minenv.gr/1/18/e1802.html
Israel	SNSSD on Energy + Agriculture-rural development	Local Agenda 21	www.environment.gov.il
Italy	SNSSD on Climate Change + large reference to the EU sectoral regulatory framework and action plans + to the VI EU Environment Action Programme		http://www.minambiente.it/sito/news/strategie_sostenibilita.asp + http://192.107.79.251/nuovo/home.htm + www.apat.gov.it + http://www.enea.it/ www.moe.gov.lb
Lebanon	10 Years Plan for Water + Cities and urban development + Solid Waste Management + Environmental Performance Strategy for Industry		
Lybian Arab Jamahirrya			
Malta			http://home.um.edu.mt/islands/ncsd/ + www.um.edu.mt/intoff/si-mo + www.mepa.org.mt + http://www.mrae.gov.mt/
Monaco			http://www.gouv.mc/

National Strategies for Sustainable Development

	Sectorial NSSD	Local initiatives related to Sustainable Development	Websites on Environment and Sustainable Development issues
Morocco			http://www.matee.gov.ma/DAT/chart.htm + http://www.minenv.gov.ma/
Serbia and Montenegro			www.mepp.cg.yu
Slovenia	SNSSD on Climate Change + Energy + Water + Agriculture- rural development + Tourism + Littoral	Local Agenda 21 in Maribor	http://www.sigov.si/cgi-bin/wpl/mop/en/meni3.htm + http://www.gov.si/mop/en/kdosmo/delovnateles_a_workprogramme.htm + www.arso.gov.si
Spain			http://www.esp-sostenible.org/eeds/contenidos.htm + http://www.mma.es/en/index.htm
Syrian Arab Republic	SNSSD on Climate Change + Energy + Water + Agriculture- rural development + Tourism + Transport + Littoral + Biodiversity + Desertification + Report of Environmental state + National Program to protect Ozone Layer		
Tunisia			http://www.environnement.nat.tn/commission.htm + http://www.environnement.nat.tn/observatoire.htm
Turkey		Local Agenda 21	www.la21turkey.net

Annex IV

Database on “Type II Partnership Initiatives” associating Mediterranean countries and Partners

During the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) the pledge towards sustainable development was strengthened by various initiatives, including a multi-stakeholder one called “Partnership for Sustainable Development”.

These “second type” of outcomes, more commonly known as “Type II Partnership Initiatives”, compared to the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (as “Type I”) consist of a series of commitments and action-oriented alliances aimed at implementing sustainable development and translating political commitments into action. Partnerships are meant to supplement and complement actions and commitments by governments.

Such commitments confirmed and reinforced the necessity of a Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD), promoted also through a Partnership for sustainable development. The MSSD, among other objectives, aims at promoting sustainable development in the Mediterranean region, and strengthening cooperation; it is also expected to have a stimulating effect for identifying and developing partnerships in the Mediterranean Region.

Upon request by some MCSD’s members for brief and synthetic information on the Type II Partnership initiatives in the Mediterranean region, the MAP-MCSD Secretariat has prepared the following database, using various documents such as the new online database of partnerships for sustainable development from the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development (UNCSD), summary reports prepared by the CSD Secretariat, listing of activities and/or processes undertaken to initiate partnerships for sustainable development, MCSD’s programme of work, MSSD’s seven priority fields of action, information collected from registered partnerships websites as well as the analysis and findings of the MSSD/Regional Review and Assessment of NSSDs in the Mediterranean that was prepared in close consultation with concerned countries and partners.

This user-friendly database would facilitate access to Mediterranean related information and promote sharing of experience and knowledge on the implementation of sustainable development in the Mediterranean Region. It would also assist individual partnership initiatives in their efforts to attract new partners and donors in the Mediterranean Region. The database is searchable by a variety of parameters such as 17 thematic issues and 22 Contracting Parties (21 Mediterranean countries and the European Community) with a direct link to UNCSD summary reports.

The 17 thematic issues correspond to the previous and on going MCSD’s programme of work and activities:

- Sustainable water demand management
- Integrating coastal zones management
- Sustainable tourism
- Sustainable management and urban development
- Free trade and the environment in the Euro-Mediterranean Context
- Information, public awareness, environmental education and public participation
- Indicators for sustainable development in the Mediterranean
- Industry
- Financing and cooperation for sustainable development

And to the 7 MSSD priority fields of action; Water, tourism and urban issues being already included in MCSD previous programme of work, the 4 remaining MSSD priority fields of action are the following:

- Sustainable agriculture and rural development
- Sustainable management of marine and coastal zones
- Energy and climate change
- Sustainable transport

Finally, considering their interest for the Mediterranean, four other issues were added to this reference database, keeping in mind that they had been previously identified as possible MCSD themes; these are:

- Cultural heritage
- Management and prevention of natural risks
- Biodiversity
- Waste management

From this database of partnerships for sustainable development, that involve at least two Mediterranean Partners, and encompass in a more or less important way related thematic issues, the following information could be derived:

- There are 9 strictly Mediterranean partnerships (EU Water initiative+ EuroMed WPF + HYDROHUMED + Integrated approach to management of the demand for electricity and urban and industrial development + MEDIES + MeditAIRaneo + MEDREP + Vocational education in an agriculture for the environment + AWISH), in addition to the MSSD as it was registered since 2002 at the WSSD.
- France, Morocco and Tunisia are involved in 16 partnerships, Algeria in 15, Egypt in 13, Italy and Spain in 9, Greece in 8, Slovenia in 6, Serbia & Montenegro in 5, Albania, Croatia, Turkey and EC in 4, Bosnia & Herzegovina in 3, Cyprus in 2, Israel, Lebanon, Libya, Malta & Monaco in 1, while Syria seems not to be involved in any of these WSSD partnerships.
- Involving at least 2 Contracting Parties, there are 32 partnerships dealing with water, 24 related to tourism, 14 on urban development, 21 on freed trade, 15 on information, 16 on indicators, 23 on industry, 10 on financing/cooperation, 28 related to coastal management, 9 dealing with marine and coastal zones, 21 related to energy and climate change, 7 on transport, 28 on cultural heritage, 17 related to risks, 18 dealing with biodiversity, 8 related to waste and finally 29 on agriculture and rural development.

It should be noted that all above information is given for indicative purposes as they depend on the availability and accessibility of information and the cross checking through relevant key words when defining if a partnership is effectively related to a specific issue. Moreover in order to fit in attached tables, the partnerships have been presented under brief titles or acronyms; full title and information on the partnership can be obtained directly from the table when clicking on respective titles.

	Type II Partnership Initiative related to MCSD issues				
	Sustainable water demand management (32)	Sustainable tourism (24)	Sustainable management and urban development (14)	Free trade and the environment in the euro-Mediterranean context (21)	Information, public awareness, environmental education and participation (15)
Albania (4)	ADRICOSM Aap2020 SARD SWM in Balkan/SM	ADRICOSM Aap2020 SWM in Balkan/SM	SARD	SARD SWM in Balkan/SM	Aap2020
Algeria (15)	African Union Initiative EU Water Initiative TIGER-SHIP ARC Infectious Diseases Exp OUZIT Project Mountain Partnership MEDREP SIRMA SBA in Africa	African Union Initiative EU Water Initiative TIGER-SHIP Exp OUZIT Project Mountain Partnership MEDREP SIRMA WPA	Mountain Partnership MEDREP SIRMA SBA in Africa WPA	African Union Initiative SISEI EU Water Initiative Exp OUZIT Project MEDREP WPA	ARC Infectious Diseases Mountain Partnership MEDREP SBA in Africa WPA
Bosnia & Herzegovina (3)	ADRICOSM GEF SP on BS/DB	ADRICOSM GEF SP on BS/DB	GEF SP on BS/DB	MeditAIRaneo	
Croatia (4)	ADRICOSM Aap2020 ERP GEF SP on BS/DB	ADRICOSM Aap2020 ERP GEF SP on BS/DB	ERP GEF SP on BS/DB		Aap2020 ERP
Cyprus (2)	SWM in Balkan/SM	SWM in Balkan/SM		MeditAIRaneo SWM in Balkan/SM	
European Community (4)	Cleaner fuels/vehicles partnership EU Water Initiative	EU Water Initiative		Caribbean SIDS for SL Cleaner fuels/vehicles partnership EU Water Initiative	
Egypt (13)	EU Water Initiative TIGER-SHIP ERP ARC Infectious Diseases EuroMed WPF Exp OUZIT Project HYDROHUMED Cap-Net	EU Water Initiative TIGER-SHIP ERP EuroMed WPF Exp OUZIT Project HYDROHUMED Cap-Net MEDREP WPA WASH for all Initiative	ERP MEDREP SBA in Africa WPA	EU Water Initiative Exp OUZIT Project HYDROHUMED MEDREP WPA	ERP ARC Infectious Diseases MEDREP SBA in Africa WPA WASH for all Initiative
France (16)	SUSTIS Mountain Partnership LCB/TSU:Public-Private Partnership Development of renewable energy ESTHER NRG4SD SARD SWM in Balkan/SM The DURAS Project	SUSTIS Mountain Partnership LCB/TSU:Public-Private Partnership NRG4SD SWM in Balkan/SM	SUSTIS Mountain Partnership SARD The DURAS Project	SISEI SUSTIS LCB/TSU:Public-Private Partnership Development of renewable energy MeditAIRaneo ESTHER NRG4SD SARD SWM in Balkan/SM UMDD The new OHADA law	Mountain Partnership Quality schools The DURAS Project UMDD
Greece (8)	Aap2020 EU Water Initiative EuroMed WPF HYDROHUMED SUSTIS NRG4SD SWM in Balkan/SM	Aap2020 EU Water Initiative EuroMed WPF HYDROHUMED SUSTIS NRG4SD SWM in Balkan/SM	SUSTIS	EU Water Initiative HYDROHUMED SUSTIS MeditAIRaneo NRG4SD SWM in Balkan/SM	Aap2020
Israel (1)	SARD		SARD	SARD	
Italy (9)	ADRICOSM Aap2020 Cleaner fuels/vehicles partnership SUSTIS	ADRICOSM Aap2020 SUSTIS Mountain Partnership	SUSTIS Mountain Partnership	Cleaner fuels/vehicles partnership SUSTIS MeditAIRaneo ESTHER	Aap2020 Mountain Partnership Quality schools

Type II Partnership Initiative related to MCSD issues					
	Sustainable water demand management (32)	Sustainable tourism (24)	Sustainable management and urban development (14)	Free trade and the environment in the euro-Mediterranean context (21)	Information, public awareness, environmental education and participation (15)
Italy (7)	ESTHER NRG4SD	NRG4SD		NRG4SD	
Lebanon (1)	GNESD, phase 1				
Libya (1)	African Union Initiative	African Union Initiative		African Union Initiative	
Malta (1)				MeditAIRaneo	
Monaco (1)	Mountain Partnership	Mountain Partnership	Mountain Partnership		Mountain Partnership
Morocco (16)	African Union Initiative TIGER-SHIP Energy for Poverty Eradication & SD ARC Infectious Diseases EuroMed WPF Mountain Partnership Development of renewable energy MEDREP ESTHER NRG4SD SIRMA SBA in Africa WASH for all Initiative	African Union Initiative TIGER-SHIP Energy for Poverty Eradication & SD EuroMed WPF Mountain Partnership MEDREP NRG4SD SIRMA WASH for all Initiative	Mountain Partnership MEDREP SIRMA SBA in Africa	African Union Initiative SISEI Development of renewable energy MEDREP ESTHER NRG4SD UMDD	ARC Infectious Diseases Mountain Partnership MEDREP SBA in Africa UMDD WASH for all Initiative
Serbia Montenegro (5)	ADRICOSM Aap2020 Mountain Partnership MEDIES	ADRICOSM Aap2020 Mountain Partnership MEDIES	Mountain Partnership MEDIES	MeditAIRaneo	Aap2020 Mountain Partnership MEDIES
Slovenia (6)	ADRICOSM Aap2020 GEF SP on BS/DB Mountain Partnership MEDIES SARD	ADRICOSM Aap2020 GEF SP on BS/DB Mountain Partnership MEDIES	GEF SP on BS/DB Mountain Partnership MEDIES SARD	SARD	Aap2020 Mountain Partnership MEDIES
Spain (9)	Aap2020 HYDROHUMED SUSTIS Mountain Partnership LCB/TSU:Public-Private Partnership MEDIES ESTHER NRG4SD	Aap2020 HYDROHUMED SUSTIS Mountain Partnership LCB/TSU:Public-Private Partnership MEDIES NRG4SD	SUSTIS Mountain Partnership MEDIES	HYDROHUMED SUSTIS MeditAIRaneo LCB/TSU:Public-Private Partnership ESTHER NRG4SD	Aap2020 Mountain Partnership MEDIES
Syria (0)					
Tunisia (16)	African Union Initiative Children's Environmental Health Indicators TIGER-SHIP Energy for Poverty Eradication & SD ARC Infectious Diseases EuroMed WPF Exp OUZIT Project GIAHS Mountain Partnership MEDIES MEDREP SIRMA SBA in Africa Vocational education in agriculture for environment	African Union Initiative Children's Environmental Health Indicators TIGER-SHIP Energy for Poverty Eradication & SD EuroMed WPF Exp OUZIT Project GIAHS Mountain Partnership MEDIES MEDREP SIRMA	Children's Environmental Health Indicators GIAHS Mountain Partnership MEDIES MEDREP SIRMA SBA in Africa Vocational education in agriculture for environment	African Union Initiative SISEI Exp OUZIT Project GIAHS MEDREP Vocational education in agriculture for environment	Children's Environmental Health Indicators ARC Infectious Diseases GIAHS Mountain Partnership MEDIES MEDREP SBA in Africa Vocational education in agriculture for environment
Turkey (4)	GEF SP on BS/DB Mountain Partnership MEDIES SARD	GEF SP on BS/DB Mountain Partnership MEDIES	GEF SP on BS/DB Mountain Partnership MEDIES SARD	SARD	Mountain Partnership MEDIES

	Indicators for sustainable development in the Mediterranean (16)	Industry (23)	Financing and cooperation for sustainable development (10)	Integrating coastal zones management (28)	Sustainable management of marine and coastal zones (9)	Energy and climate change (21)
Albania (4)	ADRICOSM Aap2020 SARD SWM in Balkan/SM	ADRICOSM Aap2020		ADRICOSM Aap2020 SARD SWM in Balkan/SM	ADRICOSM Aap2020	ADRICOSM Aap2020
Algeria (15)	SISEI Mountain Partnership MEDREP WPA	Mountain Partnership MEDREP WPA SISEI	SISEI EU Water Initiative Mountain Partnership MEDREP	African Union Initiative EU Water Initiative TIGER-SHIP Exp OUZIT Project Mountain Partnership MEDREP SIRMA SBA in Africa WPA	WPA	Mountain Partnership MEDREP WPA
Bosnia & Herzegovina (3)	ADRICOSM GEF SP on BS/DB	ADRICOSM GEF SP on BS/DB MeditAIRaneo	GEF SP on BS/DB	ADRICOSM GEF SP on BS/DB	ADRICOSM GEF SP on BS/DB	ADRICOSM MeditAIRaneo
Croatia (4)	ADRICOSM Aap2020 ERP GEF SP on BS/DB	ADRICOSM Aap2020 ERP GEF SP on BS/DB	GEF SP on BS/DB	ADRICOSM Aap2020 ERP GEF SP on BS/DB	ADRICOSM Aap2020 ERP GEF SP on BS/DB	ADRICOSM Aap2020 ERP
Cyprus (2)	SWM in Balkan/SM	MeditAIRaneo		SWM in Balkan/SM		MeditAIRaneo
European Community (4)		Cleaner fuels/vehicles partnership GODAE	Caribbean SIDS for SL EU Water Initiative	Caribbean SIDS for SL EU Water Initiative	GODAE	Cleaner fuels/vehicles partnership GODAE
Egypt (13)	CLASP ERP MEDREP WPA	CLASP ERP MEDREP WPA	EU Water Initiative MEDREP	EU Water Initiative TIGER-SHIP ERP EuroMed WPF Exp OUZIT Project HYDROHUMED MEDREP SBA in Africa WPA WASH for all Initiative	ERP HYDROHUMED WPA	CLASP ERP Cap-Net MEDREP WPA
France (16)	SISEI SUSTIS Mountain Partnership Development of renewable energy NRG4SD SARD SWM in Balkan/SM The new OHADA law	SUSTIS Demand for electricity & UID Mountain Partnership LCB/TSU:Public-Private Partnership Development of renewable energy MeditAIRaneo NRG4SD Quality schools	SISEI Demand for electricity & UID Mountain Partnership Development of renewable energy The DURAS Project	SUSTIS Mountain Partnership LCB/TSU:Public-Private Partnership Development of renewable energy NRG4SD SARD SWM in Balkan/SM	SUSTIS NRG4SD	GODAE SUSTIS Demand for electricity & UID Mountain Partnership LCB/TSU:Public-Private Partnership Development of renewable energy MeditAIRaneo NRG4SD
Greece (8)	Aap2020 SUSTIS NRG4SD SWM in Balkan/SM	Aap2020 SUSTIS MeditAIRaneo NRG4SD	EU Water Initiative	Aap2020 EU Water Initiative EuroMed WPF HYDROHUMED SUSTIS NRG4SD SWM in Balkan/SM	Aap2020 HYDROHUMED SUSTIS NRG4SD	Aap2020 SUSTIS MeditAIRaneo NRG4SD
Israel (1)	SARD			SARD		
Italy (9)	ADRICOSM Aap2020 SUSTIS Mountain Partnership	ADRICOSM Aap2020 Cleaner fuels/vehicles partnership SUSTIS	Mountain Partnership	ADRICOSM Aap2020 SUSTIS Mountain Partnership	ADRICOSM Aap2020 SUSTIS NRG4SD	ADRICOSM Aap2020 Cleaner fuels/vehicles partnership SUSTIS

	Indicators for sustainable development in the Mediterranean (16)	Industry (23)	Financing and cooperation for sustainable development (10)	Integrating coastal zones management (28)	Sustainable management of marine and coastal zones (9)	Energy and climate change (21)
Italy (7)	NRG4SD	Mountain Partnership MeditAIRaneo NRG4SD Quality schools		NRG4SD		Mountain Partnership MeditAIRaneo NRG4SD
Lebanon (1)		GNESD, phase 1	GNESD, phase 1	GNESD, phase 1		GNESD, phase 1
Libya (1)				African Union Initiative		
Malta (1)		MeditAIRaneo				MeditAIRaneo
Monaco (1)	Mountain Partnership	Mountain Partnership	Mountain Partnership	Mountain Partnership		Mountain Partnership
Morocco (16)	SISEI Mountain Partnership Development of renewable energy MEDREP NRG4SD	Energy for Poverty Eradication & SD Demand for electricity & UID Mountain Partnership Development of renewable energy MEDREP NRG4SD	SISEI Demand for electricity & UID Mountain Partnership Development of renewable energy MEDREP	African Union Initiative TIGER-SHIP Energy for Poverty Eradication & SD EuroMed WPF Mountain Partnership Development of renewable energy MEDREP NRG4SD SIRMA SBA in Africa WASH for all Initiative	NRG4SD	Energy for Poverty Eradication & SD Demand for electricity & UID Mountain Partnership Development of renewable energy MEDREP NRG4SD
Serbia Montenegro (5)	ADRICOSM Aap2020 Mountain Partnership	ADRICOSM Aap2020 Mountain Partnership MEDIES MeditAIRaneo	Mountain Partnership	ADRICOSM Aap2020 Mountain Partnership MEDIES	ADRICOSM Aap2020	ADRICOSM Aap2020 Mountain Partnership MeditAIRaneo
Slovenia (6)	ADRICOSM Aap2020 GEF SP on BS/DB Mountain Partnership SARD	ADRICOSM Aap2020 GEF SP on BS/DB Mountain Partnership MEDIES	GEF SP on BS/DB Mountain Partnership	ADRICOSM Aap2020 GEF SP on BS/DB Mountain Partnership MEDIES SARD	ADRICOSM Aap2020 GEF SP on BS/DB	ADRICOSM Aap2020 Mountain Partnership
Spain (9)	Aap2020 SUSTIS Mountain Partnership NRG4SD	Aap2020 MeditAIRaneo SUSTIS Mountain Partnership LCB/TSU:Public-Private Partnership MEDIES NRG4SD	Mountain Partnership	Aap2020 HYDROHUMED SUSTIS Mountain Partnership LCB/TSU:Public-Private Partnership MEDIES NRG4SD	Aap2020 HYDROHUMED SUSTIS NRG4SD	Aap2020 SUSTIS Mountain Partnership LCB/TSU:Public-Private Partnership MEDIES NRG4SD MeditAIRaneo
Syria (0)						
Tunisia (16)	MEDREP Mountain Partnership GIAHS SISEI CLASP	Children's Environmental Health Indicators CLASP Energy for Poverty Eradication & SD GIAHS Mountain Partnership MEDIES MEDREP	SISEI Mountain Partnership	African Union Initiative Children's Environmental Health Indicators TIGER-SHIP Energy for Poverty Eradication & SD EuroMed WPF Exp OUZIT Project GIAHS Mountain Partnership MEDIES MEDREP SIRMA SBA in Africa		Children's Environmental Health Indicators CLASP Energy for Poverty Eradication & SD GIAHS Mountain Partnership MEDREP
Turkey (4)	GEF SP on BS/DB Mountain Partnership SARD	GEF SP on BS/DB Mountain Partnership MEDIES	GEF SP on BS/DB Mountain Partnership	GEF SP on BS/DB Mountain Partnership MEDIES SARD	GEF SP on BS/DB	Mountain Partnership

	Type II Partnership Initiative related to others issues					
	Sustainable transport (7)	Cultural heritage (28)	Management and prevention of natural risks (17)	Biodiversity (18)	Waste management (8)	Sustainable agriculture and rural development (29)
Albania (4)		ADRICOSM Aap2020 SARD SWM in Balkan/SM	ADRICOSM Aap2020 SARD SWM in Balkan/SM	Aap2020	ADRICOSM Aap2020	ADRICOSM Aap2020 SARD SWM in Balkan/SM
Algeria (15)	Mountain Partnership WPA	SWM in Balkan/SM SARD ADRICOSM Aap2020	Mountain Partnership WPA	Exp OUZIT Project Mountain Partnership MEDREP SBA in Africa WPA	EU Water Initiative WPA	SISEI EU Water Initiative TIGER-SHIP Mountain Partnership MEDREP SIRMA SBA in Africa WPA
Bosnia & Herzegovina (3)	GEF SP on BS/DB	ADRICOSM GEF SP on BS/DB MeditAIRaneo	ADRICOSM GEF SP on BS/DB	GEF SP on BS/DB MeditAIRaneo	ADRICOSM	ADRICOSM GEF SP on BS/DB MeditAIRaneo
Croatia (4)	ERP GEF SP on BS/DB	ADRICOSM Aap2020 ERP GEF SP on BS/DB	ADRICOSM Aap2020 ERP GEF SP on BS/DB	ADRICOSM ERP GEF SP on BS/DB	ADRICOSM Aap2020	ADRICOSM Aap2020 ERP GEF SP on BS/DB
Cyprus (2)		MeditAIRaneo SWM in Balkan/SM	SWM in Balkan/SM	MeditAIRaneo		MeditAIRaneo SWM in Balkan/SM
European Community (4)		Caribbean SIDS for SL GODAE	GODAE		EU Water Initiative	Caribbean SIDS for SL GODAE EU Water Initiative
Egypt (13)	ERP WPA	EU Water Initiative TIGER-SHIP ERP EuroMed WPF Exp OUZIT Project HYDROHUMED Cap-Net MEDREP SBA in Africa WPA	ERP EuroMed WPF HYDROHUMED WPA	CLASP ERP Exp OUZIT Project MEDREP SBA in Africa WPA	EU Water Initiative WPA	EU Water Initiative TIGER-SHIP ERP EuroMed WPF HYDROHUMED Cap-Net MEDREP SBA in Africa WPA
France (16)	SUSTIS Mountain Partnership	SISEI SUSTIS Mountain Partnership Development of renewable energy MeditAIRaneo NRG4SD SARD SWM in Balkan/SM The DURAS Project	SUSTIS Mountain Partnership LCB/TSU:Public-Private Partnership NRG4SD SARD SWM in Balkan/SM	Mountain Partnership Development of renewable energy MeditAIRaneo NRG4SD Quality schools The DURAS Project	SUSTIS LCB/TSU:Public-Private Partnership	SUSTIS Mountain Partnership Development of renewable energy MeditAIRaneo SARD SWM in Balkan/SM The DURAS Project
Greece (8)	SUSTIS	Aap2020 EU Water Initiative EuroMed WPF HYDROHUMED SUSTIS MeditAIRaneo NRG4SD SWM in Balkan/SM	Aap2020 EuroMed WPF HYDROHUMED SUSTIS NRG4SD SWM in Balkan/SM	Aap2020 MeditAIRaneo NRG4SD	Aap2020 EU Water Initiative SUSTIS	Aap2020 EU Water Initiative EuroMed WPF HYDROHUMED SUSTIS MeditAIRaneo SWM in Balkan/SM
Israel (1)		SARD	SARD			SARD
Italy (9)	SUSTIS Mountain Partnership	ADRICOSM Aap2020 SUSTIS Mountain Partnership	ADRICOSM Aap2020 SUSTIS Mountain Partnership	Aap2020 MeditAIRaneo NRG4SD Quality schools	ADRICOSM Aap2020 SUSTIS	ADRICOSM Aap2020 SUSTIS Mountain Partnership

Type II Partnership Initiative related to others issues						
	Sustainable transport (7)	Cultural heritage (28)	Management and prevention of natural risks (17)	Biodiversity (18)	Waste management (8)	Sustainable agriculture and rural development (29)
Italy (7)		MeditAIRaneo NRG4SD	NRG4SD			MeditAIRaneo
Lebanon (1)		GNESD, phase 1		GNESD, phase 1		GNESD, phase 1
Libya (1)		African Union Initiative				
Malta (1)		MeditAIRaneo		MeditAIRaneo		MeditAIRaneo
Monaco (1)	Mountain Partnership	Mountain Partnership	Mountain Partnership	Mountain Partnership		Mountain Partnership
Morocco (16)	Mountain Partnership	African Union Initiative SISEI TIGER-SHIP EuroMed WPF Mountain Partnership Development of renewable energy MEDREP NRG4SD SBA in Africa	EuroMed WPF Mountain Partnership NRG4SD	Mountain Partnership Development of renewable energy MEDREP NRG4SD SBA in Africa		SISEI TIGER-SHIP Energy for Poverty Eradication & SD EuroMed WPF Mountain Partnership Development of renewable energy MEDREP SIRMA SBA in Africa
Serbia Montenegro (5)	Mountain Partnership	ADRICOSM Aap2020 Mountain Partnership MeditAIRaneo	ADRICOSM Aap2020 Mountain Partnership MEDIES	Aap2020 Mountain Partnership MEDIES MeditAIRaneo	ADRICOSM Aap2020 MEDIES	ADRICOSM Aap2020 Mountain Partnership MEDIES MeditAIRaneo
Slovenia (6)	GEF SP on BS/DB Mountain Partnership	ADRICOSM Aap2020 GEF SP on BS/DB Mountain Partnership SARD	ADRICOSM Aap2020 GEF SP on BS/DB Mountain Partnership MEDIES SARD	Aap2020 GEF SP on BS/DB Mountain Partnership MEDIES	ADRICOSM Aap2020 MEDIES	ADRICOSM Aap2020 GEF SP on BS/DB Mountain Partnership MEDIES SARD
Spain (9)	SUSTIS Mountain Partnership	Aap2020 HYDROHUMED SUSTIS Mountain Partnership MeditAIRaneo NRG4SD	Aap2020 HYDROHUMED SUSTIS NRG4SD LCB/TSU:Public-Private Partnership MEDIES	Aap2020 MEDIES Mountain Partnership MeditAIRaneo NRG4SD	Aap2020 SUSTIS MEDIES LCB/TSU:Public-Private Partnership	MeditAIRaneo Mountain Partnership MEDIES HYDROHUMED SUSTIS Aap2020
Syria (0)						
Tunisia (16)	Children's Environmental Health Indicators GIAHS Mountain Partnership	African Union Initiative SISEI Children's Environmental Health Indicators TIGER-SHIP EuroMed WPF Exp OUZIT Project GIAHS Mountain Partnership MEDREP SBA in Africa	Children's Environmental Health Indicators EuroMed WPF GIAHS Mountain Partnership MEDIES	CLASP Exp OUZIT Project GIAHS Mountain Partnership MEDIES MEDREP SBA in Africa	Children's Environmental Health Indicators MEDIES	SISEI Children's Environmental Health Indicators TIGER-SHIP Energy for Poverty Eradication & SD EuroMed WPF GIAHS Mountain Partnership MEDIES MEDREP SIRMA SBA in Africa Vocational education in agriculture for environment
Turkey (4)	GEF SP on BS/DB Mountain Partnership	GEF SP on BS/DB Mountain Partnership SARD	GEF SP on BS/DB Mountain Partnership MEDIES SARD	GEF SP on BS/DB Mountain Partnership MEDIES	MEDIES	GEF SP on BS/DB Mountain Partnership MEDIES SARD

Annex V

Recommendations for the MCSD, 13th meeting of the Contracting Parties

(Extract from UNEP(DEC)/MED IG.15/11, Annex III) - Recommendations

The Contracting Parties agreed to:

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

1. To take note of the Vision and the Framework Orientations for a Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (UNEP(DEC)/MED. IG.15.10) and to submit comments and proposals to the President of the Bureau of the Contracting Parties before 15 January 2004 with a view to refining them.
2. To provide the necessary support and contribute to the preparatory process of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD), giving due consideration to the additional comments and proposals.
3. 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.
4. To entrust the Steering Committee of the MCSD with the task of supervising the preparation of the MSSD; in this context, the Steering Committee would have to meet as necessary for that purpose.
5. To approve the creation of a post within the UNEP/MAP Secretariat, for a duration limited to two years, for the activities of the MCSD/MSSD.
6. To approve the MCSD proposed recommendations on MCSD assessment and prospects (UNEP(DEC)/MED IG.15/3, Annex III, Appendix I), as amended by the Contracting Parties and attached hereto (Appendix 1) .

To request the Secretariat:

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.

(UNEP(DEC)/MED IG.15/11, Annex III, Appendix I)

Proposals of the Mediterranean Commission for Sustainable Development (MCSD) for recommendations concerning the Commission's assessment and prospects

Eight years after its establishment, a considerable amount of work has been done by the MCSD in many fields of sustainable development, and a wide range of recommendations and proposals for action have been made. This has been a rich source of inspiration for the Contracting Parties and all the sustainable development partners in the Mediterranean. In order to make the work of the MCSD more efficient and visible, and to improve the participation of the different civil society groups, a review and assessment of the MCSD's organization and methods of work were considered necessary by Contracting Parties as well as the MCSD. Accordingly, the MCSD, at its Seventh Meeting held in Antalya, established a Task Force from among its members to consider the issue of its assessment and prospects. The MCSD considered the Task Force's report (finalized in April 2003 and attached for information) at its Eighth Meeting in Cavtat and decided to propose to the Contracting Parties that they adopt the following set of recommendations, aimed at further strengthening the Commission and refocusing its action in the post-Johannesburg era:

1. The MCSD should continue to be a think tank/high-level policy forum for identifying, evaluating and examining sustainable development issues in the region. The Commission should seek to better establish its credibility so as to extend its active dialogue with international and regional agencies and national governments, as well as all the bodies within MAP and civil society, in order to assist their work and strengthen their contribution to sustainable development.
2. To improve the efficiency and credibility of the MCSD, special attention should be given to the organization of dialogue on substantive policy issues at the annual meetings, to the progress of work of the thematic groups and to the networking of MCSD members with other stakeholders at regional and national levels.
3. Aiming to secure a more coherent regional approach on sustainable development and in line with the overall concern for improving global environmental governance, as evidenced by UNEP's Cartagena Agreement on governance and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, UNEP/MAP Secretariat is urged to act as a catalyst and renew initiatives for the establishment of an informal Interagency Platform in the Mediterranean in consultation with the regional offices of agencies active in the region on sustainable development issues.
4. The recommendations and proposals for action of the MCSD should not be restricted only to formal approval by the Contracting Parties (CPs), which have the major responsibility to deliver. The UNEP/MAP Secretariat, with the support of other MAP bodies, through external resources if necessary, should elaborate on the strategic recommendations and proposals for action, making them more explicit and strengthening them with detailed guidelines. Implementing the recommendations and proposals for action remains the

responsibility of governments at all levels in cooperation with other stakeholders. Follow-up responsibility should mainly be entrusted to MEDU, which should also encourage all MAP bodies to integrate such recommendations and proposals for action in their regular activities and programmes of work, including in their mainstream reporting requirements.

5. The Commission will periodically review and assess implementation of its recommendations and proposals for action. In order for the MCSD to be enabled to fulfill this function, the following should be adopted:
 - The Secretariat should prepare a common reporting format, following the Commission's Programme of Action, in consultation with CPs.
 - The Secretariat, on the basis of short voluntary reports from governments and the other actors on progress made with regard to the Commission's recommendations and proposals for action, should prepare a concise report on implementation and submit it to the MCSD.
 - The MCSD should review the report, assess progress made, formulate its findings and suggestions concerning implementation and submit them to the meetings of the CPs for further consideration.
 - Selected working groups could reconvene from time to time in order to assess the results of the periodic monitoring of the implementation of their recommendations and proposals for action.
6. The Commission's composition is its main strength and any changes should maintain its open, autonomous, advisory and representative nature, with members that are informed experts from various sectors and civil society in general. The MCSD should continue to consist of 36 members, with 15 seats allocated for the non-governmental sectors, on the basis of a flexible, broad and representational approach (e.g. trade unions, federations of professionals, consumer groups, women, youth, etc); members proposed by non-governmental partners should accept that they have a responsibility to consult with the sectors they represent on any particular issue.
7. To each session two to three ad hoc members could be invited, having special competence in the matters included in the agenda of a meeting.
8. The Commission will hold ordinary meetings once every year, to last for three days and consider a limited number of issues each time. In its working methods, the Commission and its groups should be encouraged to fully utilize the potentials offered by modern technology. The practice of holding meetings in various countries will be maintained, but proposals to host such meetings should be accompanied by a substantial contribution of the host country towards the logistics of the meeting.
9. The reasons that restrict the effective and active participation of some groups should be addressed through direct contacts with the organizations concerned so as to allow all groups to take advantage of, and contribute to, the opportunities and challenges offered by the setting up of the MCSD.

10. Representatives of the various agencies to MCSD meetings should be invited not only to MCSD meetings, but also, on the basis of the relevance of the issues to their interests, to meetings of working groups, participating with equality of interaction as stakeholders.
11. Every effort must be exerted to establish connections with the Type II Initiatives launched either in Johannesburg or later which are of special interest to the Mediterranean. The Commission should also strongly encourage its members to develop additional partnership Initiatives guided by the UNCSD 11 set of criteria for partnerships.
12. The MCSD proposes to the CPs that they mandate the MAP Coordinator to identify, through outside professional advice, the appropriate means required for the MAP structure, including the MCSD, to successfully respond to the requirements for the promotion of sustainable development at regional level and make appropriate recommendations thereon to the CPs.
13. A clear distinction should be maintained between the functions of the UNEP/MAP Secretariat (coordination, policy and strategic issues, etc) and the function of the RAC support centres (basically for “thematic issues” and related activities including some kind of follow-up). All RACs are encouraged to refocus their programmes more on sustainable development issues and act as support centres for the scientific and technical aspects of the MCSD’s “thematic” activities.
14. The potentials offered by current manpower resources and relevant arrangements within MEDU should be fully utilized, with outside professional advice if necessary, in order to give greater visibility not only to the MCSD but to MAP itself, as an integral part of a structured communications strategy.
15. A multi-stakeholder fund-raising strategy should be developed as an integral part of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development under preparation within MCSD/MAP.
16. At its 2004 session, the Commission should prepare a medium-term Programme of Work for the period 2004-2007 to be endorsed by the Bureau, based on the priorities of relevant global, regional and national initiatives, such as the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development (UNCSD) and national commissions on sustainable development, as they relate to the Mediterranean specificities; this programme will then be revised in line with the objectives and priorities of the MSSD once approved by the Contracting Parties.

Annex VI

Summary of Conclusions and Decisions 9th Meeting of the MCSD, Genoa, Italy 17-19 June 2004

1. The Commission elected its new Steering Committee, composed as follows:

President:	Mr C. Clini	(Italy)
Vice-Presidents:	Mr A. Sahibi	(Morocco)
	Mr J. Parpal	(MEDCITIES)
	Mr E. Clancy	(Friends of the Earth/MedNet)
	Mr J-P. Fonteneau	(EDCM/ICC)
	Mr A. Lascaratos	(Greece)
Rapporteur	Mr N. Georgiades	(Cyprus)

2. As the goals of the MSSD would be implemented at the national level, it would be necessary to strengthen the capacity of actors participating in the process wherever this was necessary and feasible.
3. The MSSD should play a role as a facilitator of partnerships between countries to address common objectives and for the channelling of assistance, in terms of financial and human resources, the exchange of technologies and capacity building between countries in the region and with international agencies. The Strategy should also lead to the preparation of programmes and projects that could interest funding agencies.
4. Throughout the preparatory process and further during implementation, it is of great importance to ensure a high level of synergy between the MSSD and national strategies.
5. A process of endorsement of the MSSD would clearly be needed. Endorsement should be at the highest possible level, and should involve as broad a range of stakeholders and sectoral ministries as possible, once it is approved by the meeting of the Contracting Parties.
6. All States should establish national procedures to address sustainable development issues at the highest level in order to facilitate the process of the preparation of the MSSD, and there on be prepared for action once the MSSD is adopted by the Contracting Parties. To that end, the Secretariat will send a letter to the MAP National Focal Points to induce them to launch national consultations.
7. The MSSD should not merely remain a vision, but it should incorporate goals, measurable targets, time frames and indicators. However, these should be sufficiently flexible to secure their implementation.
8. In preparing the Strategy, it is necessary to be ambitious, aim high and to convey a strong political message, highlighting when necessary the need for political and institutional reform.

9. A substantive document in an advanced stage of preparation should be ready preferably for adoption by the next meeting of the Contracting Parties in November 2005, in Slovenia.
10. The expertise of the Regional Activity Centres and the studies and reports already available should be used in order to avoid duplication of efforts and save human and financial resources. The Coordinating Unit should have the flexibility to enable it to set up working groups or hire consultants as it sees fit. MAP components should be responsible for the finalization of the strategic objective sheets and the preparation of the MSSD. Consequently, no advisory group or further institutional structures are required. Moreover, the participants to the meeting are requested to send their comments and inputs on the thematic notes and the preparation of the MSSD before the end of September 2004, the latest.
11. Regarding the "financing and cooperation" issue, it was considered a timely and useful tool for the preparation of the MSSD, for the funding of sustainable development in the Mediterranean and lobbying for more funding, in particular from the EU.
12. Existing mechanisms need to be reformed, where appropriate, and imaginative and innovative measures should be adopted involving civil society and economic partners and including decentralized financial cooperation. The (comparative) lack of investment in the Mediterranean, the fact that debt conversion was not sufficiently tied to sustainable development and the issue of migrant remittances were all broad issues that should be considered for such treatment.
13. The work programme as proposed should be seen as a basic blueprint for action in the period ahead, allowing for all due flexibility to enable specific or new concerns to be reflected, pending review and revision in the light of the Strategy. Matters such as working modalities should be decided by the Secretariat, throughout the implementation of the programme and as appropriate depending on respective issue and existing capacities, while applying the approach of a technical session the first year and a policy one the second year. The Secretariat was requested to proceed with the proposed programme of work and method of work, bearing in mind that it would be re-assessed once the MSSD had been adopted.
14. The proposed Platform should be further pursued, in principle, with a flexible timetable so as to assess the possibility for promoting cooperation and synergy between regional actors for the benefit of the region and the beneficiary countries and partners. This issue would be re-assessed at a later stage depending on progress.
15. An indicative road map for the preparatory process of the MSSD was reviewed and endorsed.
16. The tenth meeting of the MCSD will be held in June 2005 (venue not yet defined), with the finalization of the MSSD documents as main item on its agenda.

Annex VII

MEMBERS OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE OF THE MCSD

<u>1ST MCSD (1996/1998)</u>	<u>4TH MCSD (1998/1999)</u>	<u>5TH MCSD (1999/2000)</u>
President: MOROCCO Vice President: ASCAME Vice President : CREE Vice President : CROATIA Vice President : EGYPT Vice President : EC Vice President : TUNISIA Rapporteur : ECOMEDITERRANEA	President : TUNISIA Vice President : EOAEN Vice President : CYPRUS Vice President : MIO-ECSDE Vice President : SILIFKE Vice President : SPAIN Rapporteur : MONACO	President : TUNISIA Vice President : EOAEN Vice President : ROME Vice President : MALTA Vice President : MONACO Vice President : TURKEY Rapporteur : WWF
<u>6th MCSD (2000/2002)</u>	<u>7th MCSD (2002/2003)</u>	<u>8th MCSD (2003/2004)</u>
President : MONACO Vice President : TUNISIA Vice President : MALTA Vice President : GREECE Vice President : EOAEN Vice President : ENDA Rapporteur: NAPLES	President: TURKEY Vice President: MONACO Vice President: ALGERIA Vice President: SPAIN Vice President: CALVIA Vice President: MEDENER Rapporteur: ENDA	President: CROATIA Vice President: LIBYA Vice President: FRANCE Vice President: MONACO/ITALY Vice President: OMISALJ Vice President: ICC/MED Rapporteur: RAED
<u>9th MCSD (2004/2005)</u>		
President: ITALY Vice President: GREECE Vice President: MOROCCO Vice President: FoE/MEDNET Vice President: MEDCITIES Vice President: ICC/MED Rapporteur: CYPRUS		