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Agenda item 3: Progress Report of the Coordinating Unit and MAP Components on Activities Carried out in the Period July-December 2014

Progress Report by the Secretariat on Activities Carried Out in the Period July-December 2014

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. This report covers the activities and outputs carried out in the period between 1 July 2014 and 31 December 2014. The Report by the Secretariat on Financial and Administrative Issues is provided as a separate document (UNEP(DEPI)/MED BUR.79/5) for the consideration of the Bureau.
2. The progress report is composed of a narrative part that highlights results and progress achieved during this period under the 6 themes of the Programme of Work 2014-2015 (Governance, Integrated Coastal Zone Management, Biodiversity, Pollution Control and Prevention, Sustainable Consumption and Production, Climate Change). Annex I illustrates the status of signatures and ratifications of the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean and its Protocols as of 31 December 2014.

II. SUMMARY OF PROGRESS

3. The 4th Meeting of the Ecosystem Approach Coordination Group (EcAp CG) met in Athens, Greece on 9-10 October 2014, with the aim to provide recommendations on the further development of the Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Guidance; and to give early inputs and recommendations towards the development of an EcAp Measures Gap Analysis, based on the Secretariat's initial analysis, on the draft Socio-Economic Analysis, and on the draft Offshore Action Plan. The meeting gave initial reactions on the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM) proposed common indicators regarding Ecological Objective (EO) 3 (Fisheries) and also on the ACCOBAMS' proposed recommendations on common indicators regarding EO11 (Marine Noise).
4. The 9th Meeting of the Compliance Committee was held in Split, Croatia on 27-28 November 2014. In accordance with Article 6 of its Rules of Procedure, the Committee unanimously elected Ms. Daniela Addis as Chairperson and Ms. Selma Cengic and Mr. Michel Prieur as Vice-Chairpersons. The Committee provided recommendations on non-compliance with obligations regarding the submission of reports as per Article 26 of the Barcelona Convention as decided by COP 18; discussed criteria for the evaluation of reports by the Secretariat and the Compliance Committee to establish compliance; and considered the revision process of the Barcelona Convention reporting format.
5. The Executive Coordination Panel (ECP) met three times in person (August, October, December), and several times by teleconference. It was the first time that such frequency of meetings was achieved since ECP was established, which enhanced coordination among MAP Components and the Coordinating Unit. One of the indicators of this progress is the established and functioning Task Forces on Administration, Communications, Mediterranean Strategy on Sustainable Development (MSSD) and Ecosystem Approach respectively; and also the participatory work on the preparation of the issues paper that defines the framework for the Midterm Strategy 2016-2021.
6. The main achievements on pollution prevention and control in this reporting period involved delivering updated guidelines related to hot spot assessment, national budget baseline of pollutants (NBB), economic analysis of programmes of measures, polychlorinated biphenyl compounds (PCB) management, lube oil management, tannery and control of Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD) from industrial resources; collecting pollution monitoring and pollutant loads data from the contracting parties; progress on the National Action Plans (NAP) update process; establishment of virtual groups with experts nominated by the Contracting Parties to define thresholds and Environmental Assessment Criteria (EAC) on a number of pollutants; preparation for disposal of 800 tons of PCB in an environmental sound manner by March 2015; developing tools to support decision making at national level such as the link between pollutant Emission Limit Values (ELV) and Good Environmental Status/Environmental Quality Standards

(GES/EQS); and enhancing collaboration with key partners and initiatives in the region and at the global level.

7. Progress has been significant in all fields of implementation of the Ecosystem Approach (EcAp), with the assistance of the EU funded EcAp-MED project, reaching the following milestones: (i) the development and presentation of an EcAp Monitoring and Assessment Methodological Guidance during the EcAp CG in October 2014; (ii) the finalization of the Socio-Economic Reports, (iii) the presentation of the draft Offshore Action Plan to the EcAp CG; (iv) and the drafting and first discussion of an initial gap analysis of existing Barcelona Convention/Protocols measures relating to the implementation of the Ecosystem Approach in the EcAp CG (the Initial Gap Analysis).
8. The higher role that was given to UNEP/MAP within the Union for the Mediterranean Horizon 2020 Initiative (UfM H2020) governance in accordance with the UfM Ministerial Declaration, May 2014, was institutionalized in two meetings of the UfM H2020 groups on Review and Monitoring and on Capacity Building. The meetings were held in November 2014 in Athens, Greece and Brussels, Belgium respectively. The invitations were co-signed by the UNEP/MAP Coordinator, while both meeting documents were prepared in consultation and with UNEP/MAP contribution. The outcomes of these meetings were submitted to the UfM H2020 Steering Group meeting held jointly with MED POL focal points on 17 December 2014 in Barcelona, Spain.
9. The presentation of 17 Ecologically or Biologically Significant Marine Areas (EBSAs) in the Mediterranean at the meeting of the Contracting Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) (COP12, October 2014) resulted in 16 EBSAs adopted by the CBD.
10. The Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Large Marine Ecosystem (MedPartnership) and the Integration of Climate Variability and Change into National Strategies to Implement the Integrated Coastal Zone Management Protocol in the Mediterranean (ClimVar & ICZM) project activities are on track with well-defined work plans and budgets which allow the achievement of the projects' objectives. The MedPartnership, now in its fifth year of implementation, reached an overall 77% of expenditure, while the ClimVar & ICZM, now in its second year of implementation, reached an overall 40% of expenditure and deliverables. The last Project Implementation Report (PIR), covering the period July 2013 – June 2014, rated highly satisfactory or satisfactory on 42 indicators out of 54 for the MedPartnership and 8 indicators out of 13 for the ClimVar & ICZM.
11. Under the ClimVar & ICZM, the UNEP/MAP Project Management Unit (PMU), together with the co-executing partners boosted the development of the Regional Climate Change Adaptation Framework. Moreover both projects implemented several trainings and workshops during the reporting period to enhance the capacity building of the participating countries.
12. Within the framework of SPA/RAC's work on the establishment of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) in areas beyond national jurisdiction or areas where the limits of national sovereignty or jurisdiction have not yet been defined, SPA/RAC held two consultation meetings in Gammarth, Tunisia, on the development of SPAMIs for the neighboring countries of the Sicily channel/Tunisian plateau and the Adriatic open seas respectively. Both meetings resulted in roadmaps in the process of declaration of SPAMIs in the two areas' open seas. The second round of meetings will be held in Rome, Italy in April 2015.
13. SPA/RAC initiated a regional programme aiming at assisting some Mediterranean countries (Libya, Montenegro, Morocco, Slovenia and Tunisia) in mapping key marine habitats and promoting their conservation through the establishment of SPAMIs and is pursuing its support to several countries in establishing new MPAs and enhancing the management of existing ones. The activities within the countries concerned by the project were identified and Memoranda of Cooperation were signed.
14. The MSSD Review process had an ambitious roadmap in this reporting period. On-line and face-to-face consultations took place between September and December 2014. The process was supported by a number of experts, in addition to MSSD Task Force, the Chairperson of the

MCS D Steering Committee and the Secretariat team. The first draft of the reviewed Mediterranean Strategy on Sustainable Development – MSSD 2.0 was prepared and shared with the MCS D Steering Committee for clearance, before it is submitted to a wide group of stakeholders, including MCS D members, who will gather in the MSSD Review Conference on 17-18 February 2015 in Malta, with generous hosting by the Maltese Government.

15. The elaboration of the SCP Action Plan is on track, with scheduled activities for the period July – December 2014 conducted as planned. In particular, a broad consultation process, involving regional stakeholders as well as the Contracting Parties, started with the Extraordinary SCP/RAC focal points meeting (Barcelona, Spain, 25-26 November 2014) in which the first draft of the Action Plan was presented, and the French version of the SCP Toolkit for Policy-Makers was published.
16. The period under review was a transition period for REMPEC during which the decisions adopted by the COP 18 (Istanbul, December 2013) and their resulting consequences on REMPEC’s structure and operations started to be implemented. Although every effort was done to ensure that this transition is as smooth as possible, this had some effect on the implementation of the activities particularly in view of the fact that as from 1 July 2014 the Director of REMPEC and two support staff had their contract terminated.
17. The draft Offshore Protocol Action Plan, prepared by REMPEC and adopted by the 3rd Offshore Protocol Working Group Meeting (17-18 June 2014, Attard, Malta) was submitted to the 4th Meeting of the EcAp Coordination Group (9-10 October 2014, Athens, Greece), which provided a set of recommendations. The revised Draft Offshore Action Plan will be reviewed by REMPEC and MAP focal points before it is finalized.
18. REMPEC organized the Regional Workshop (3-5 November 2014, Istanbul, Turkey), where the most recent amendments to Annex VI of the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL), namely its new Chapter 4 (regulations on energy efficiency for ships), and the responsibilities of Parties under the Convention were discussed.
19. In this reporting period three draft monitoring manuals on seabirds, sea turtles and marine mammals were prepared by SPA/RAC; the feasibility study “Ecotourism for local development in Boka Kotorska (Montenegro)” was published by SCP/RAC; and the “Guidelines on Best Environmental Practices of Environmental Sound Management (ESM) of mercury polluted sites” was completed by MED POL.

III. OUTPUT PERFORMANCE

3.1 Governance (Theme I)

Output 1.1. - Strengthening Institutional Coherence, Efficiency and Accountability

a) Meetings of Policy Making Bodies

20. The Executive Coordination Panel (ECP) met three times in person during the reporting period in August, October and December 2014. Discussions focused on coordination, cooperation and accountability within the MAP system; implementation of COP 18 decisions and delivery of the Programme of Work; partnerships and resource mobilization; outreach, information and communications; and in-depth substantive work on the Midterm Strategy Development Process. These in-person meetings improved the ownership and joint working culture of the MAP system, providing an efficient participatory platform for an integrated effort on PoW delivery and midterm strategy development.
21. The 4th Meeting of the EcAp Coordination Group (EcAp CG) met in Athens, Greece on 9-10 October 2014, and discussed at MAP focal points level key outstanding issues, political

directions in relation to EcAp, building on the expert level work of various EcAp related meetings of the previous semester.

22. Based on the guidance provided by the MED POL focal points (FP) meeting held on 26-28 March 2014, Athens, Greece on NBB and NAP update, the Secretariat organized a second thematic meeting of the MED POL FP on 18-19 December 2014 in Barcelona, Spain, to review the following documents:
- Draft guideline on hot spot and sensitive areas assessment;
 - Draft guideline on national pollutant load budget (NBB) assessment;
 - Proposed candidate indicators to assess implementation of the LBS, Dumping, HW protocols as well as Regional Plans and the NAPs;
 - Draft Guidance on cost-effectiveness and cost–benefit analyses of measures.

This meeting provided strong impetus for the NAP update process at country level.

23. The 16th Global Meeting of the Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans (RSCAPs) took place in Athens, Greece, from 29 September to 1 October 2014, hosted by UNEP/MAP. The objectives of the meeting were to: discuss the role of the RSCAPs in the process of developing a sustainable development goals (SDG) on oceans within the post-2015 development agenda; present progress in the implementation of the Regional Seas Strategic Directions 2013-2016; discuss the Global Partnership on Marine Litter (GPML) and regional actions on marine litter; and discuss the development of a roadmap for implementing the visioning priorities for the next 10 years. Around 50 participants attended the meeting. Participants were representatives of Members and Secretariats of 16 regional seas conventions and action plans, of UN organizations and intergovernmental organizations, and the media.

b) Partnerships and Resource Mobilization

24. Fundraising efforts have been carried out to scale-up implementation of the 2014-2015 Programme of Work.
- Two project concepts have been prepared to be submitted to UNEP and EU to support the implementation of Marine Litter Regional Plan.
 - Twelve project concepts have been prepared and presented by SPA/RAC to potential donors at the IUCN World Park Congress in Sidney, November, 2014. The project concept notes support SPA/RAC’s aim to strengthening the implementation of the Protocol concerning Specially Protocol Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean (SPA/BD Protocol).
 - The project proposal by Plan Bleu “Evaluation économique des services écologiques rendus par les zones humides dans le cadre du changement climatique en Méditerranée” has been accepted by MAVA Foundation and Fondation Prince Albert II.
 - A new project concept on Ecosystem Approach was submitted to European Commission’s Thematic Programme for Environment and Sustainable Management of Natural Resources (ENRTP) Programme Steering Committee, where it was reviewed and accepted. It was quoted by the EC Co-Chair as a model for cooperation.
 - In addition to the above-listed ones, several calls for proposal have been reviewed and responded to.
25. The partnership with UfM has been enhanced by meetings with the UfM Deputy Secretary-General for Energy and with the UfM Deputy Secretary-General for Environment. Discussions continue on the implementation plans of the Memorandum of Understanding and on future cooperation.

26. The partnership with UfM H2020 has been strengthened. Two meetings of the H2020 group on Review and Monitoring and the H2020 group on Capacity Building were held respectively on 12 November 2014 in Athens and on 17 November 2014 in Brussels. The invitations were co-signed by UNEP/MAP Coordinator while both meeting documents were prepared in consultation and with UNEP/MAP contribution. In addition, the Secretariat collaborated with UfM Secretariat in preparing the programme of work on pollution prevention and reduction component of H2020 (investment component). UNEP/MAP through the MED POL programme attended the meeting on 18 November 2014 held in Brussels, Belgium and co-chaired by UfM Secretariat and the European Investment Bank (EIB). The UfM Secretariat has prepared a data base information system for investment projects of UfM H2020/NAPs currently under the testing process by some contracting parties.
27. The collaboration with the European Environmental Agency (EEA) is ongoing. A high-level meeting between EEA and UNEP/MAP took place in November 2014, and the development of a renewed Joint Work Plan, following the one that expired in 2008, to better harmonize and integrate the respective activities was agreed. This would be framed around the different political mandates and obligations of the two organizations, to deliver a common goal on specific themes. The process of developing such Work Plan would involve all MAP Components. The joint implementation of the current Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS) project will be concluded at the end of 2014. UNEP/MAP through the MED POL Programme has attended the SEIS project Steering Committee and participated in several consultation sessions with SEIS project partners to ensure successful finalization of all activities as well as to design the project second phase expected to start in Spring 2015.
28. The collaboration with several projects funded by the EU addressing pollution and marine litter was strengthened during this period, such as with the project on Coordination and Alignment Meeting (CAM) for the technical support of the MSFD, Project on the Removal of Marine Litter from Europe's four regional seas (MARELITT); Project on Marine Litter in European Seas - Social Awareness and Co-Responsibility (Marlisco), Project on Policy-oriented Marine Environmental Research in the Southern European Seas (Perseus).
29. The MED POL programme initiated the collaboration with the Quality Assurance of Information in Marine Environment Monitoring in Europe (QUASIMEME) and University of Alessandria, Italy regarding quality assurance of eutrophication and biological effect of pollution monitoring.
30. At global level, collaboration was established with UNEP/Global Programme of Action (GPA) on marine litter and waste water management and with the Basel Convention Secretariat to carry out a joint training activity to combat illegal traffic of hazardous waste including PCBs in the Mediterranean.
31. A coordination meeting was held in Stralsund, Germany in October 2014 between the four European seas with the view to ensure synergy in implementation of the Regional Plans on Marine Litter.
32. A Memorandum of Collaboration for six years was signed between MedPAN and SPA/RAC in September 2014.
33. SPA/RAC has contributed with technical expertise at international meetings on biodiversity and fisheries indicators organized by the International Council for the Exploration of the Seas (ICES), the Convention for the Protection of the marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic (OSPAR) and the Convention on the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Baltic Sea Area (HELCOM) on behalf of UNEP/MAP Secretariat.
34. Following the commitment made by Malta during the COP 18 to make a one off voluntary contribution to fund REMPEC activities, the Centre has managed to secure a €32,000 voluntary contribution from the Government of Malta to co-fund REMPEC activities during the current biennium.

c) MedPartnership

35. The main progress of the project's components during this period is summarized below:

- Component 1. Integrated approaches for the implementation of the SAPs and NAPs: ICZM, IWRM and management of coastal aquifers:
The first draft of the regional report on coastal wetlands dependent on groundwater in Morocco was prepared, the first draft of the ICZM Strategy in Montenegro was prepared, the second draft of the national ICZM strategy was approved by the Ministry of Environment in Algeria. A new Directive on integrated marine and coastal strategy was discussed and adopted by the Government of Croatia. Legal and institutional analysis was prepared in the Buna/Bojana river basin (Albania-Montenegro) for the development of an Integrated Resources Basin Management (IRBM).
- Component 2. Pollution of land based activities, including persistent organic pollutants: implementation of SAP-MED and related NAPs:
Three Small Scale Fund Agreements (SSFAs) were signed with Tunisia, Turkey and Algeria. Related projects on the facilitation of policy and legislation reforms for the control of industrial pollution started, namely: project on Phosphogypsum slurry management started in Tunisia, Chromium and BOD control of tanneries effluent in Turkey, Lubricating oil recycling and regeneration in Algeria. The correlation tool between the Emission Limit Values (ELV) and Environmental Quality Standards (EQS) was finalized and a workshop to train the countries' experts in its use was organized in November 2014 in Athens. A regional training workshop to provide practical guidance and uniformity on inspecting on the most commonly polluted and industrial facilities of the country was held in Athens in November 2014. The disposal of more than 800 tons of Polychlorinated biphenyl (PCBs) started in Egypt, Turkey and Bosnia Herzegovina. After the collecting phase the PCBs will be destroyed. This process is planned to be finished by March/April 2015.
- Component 3. Conservation of biological diversity: implementation of SAP BIO and related National Action Plans (NAPs):
The first draft of a Management Plan for the Porto Palermo Bay (Albania), based on the ecological and socio-economic studies and discussions was finalized in September 2014 and presented together with a draft decision by the Albanian Government for the MPA creation on 12 November 2014. The draft study on socio-economic and fisheries activities and identification of local stakeholder participation mechanism in the Réghaia future MPA was endorsed by the Algerian Ministry of Environment. The Croatian environmental authorities approved the monitoring protocols for *posidonia* and *coralligenous habitats* in order to identify marine sites suitable to become MPAs in Croatia. The final versions of the National Strategy for MPA establishment and the draft Law on Protected Areas in Libya have been submitted to the Libyan Environment General Authority for their endorsement. In Montenegro, the report on marine biodiversity status together with the final feasibility study on ecotourism in Boka Kotorska were finalized in September 2014, and submitted to the Montenegrin environmental authorities for endorsement. An SSFA was signed between SPA/RAC and UNEP/MAP in late July 2014 to develop a replication activity in Tunisia to run ecological and socio-economic studies in view of the creation of an MPA in the North-Eastern part of Kerkennah Islands (Tunisia). Training courses in Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF) were held for staff of the main fisheries institutions in Turkey (Antalya, 8-12 September 2014), Croatia, Montenegro and Tunisia (Rome, 22-26 September 2014).
- Component 4. Project Co-ordination, NGO Involvement, Replication and Communication Strategies, Management and M&E
All the countries appointed national NAP coordinators and initiated the process to develop a sustainable financial mechanism for the long term implementation of NAPs. Technical annexes to the NAP update guidelines were developed, including guidelines on the assessment of cost-effectiveness and cost-benefit of measures to contribute to NAP financial

sustainability. Cooperation with H2020 strengthened to ensure adequate support to the NAP update process. During the reporting period 37 regional and national experts and consultation workshops, conferences, trainings and events have been organized in the framework of the MedPartnership.

36. The “ClimVar & ICZM” project, being a complementary initiative of MedPartnership, provides a unique opportunity for a coordinated Mediterranean wide approach to assessing and adapting to climate change variability. The main outputs of the project components are the following:

- Component 1. Data and information gathering on climate variability.
Five of the national multi-stakeholder workshops for the gathering of information and updating national reports have been conducted, which will form the basis of a regional analysis. The platform for climate variability and change data and information has been designed, as a more ambitious platform that will link to national institutions who will provide (through Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDI)) key data to the platform, from which then data can be downloaded (depending on the institutions policies for sharing) interrogated and mapped. This is the first time such a platform is being created at the Mediterranean wide level.
- Component 2. Analysis and climate variability impacts to the marine and coastal zone.
The two demonstrations within this component have begun, in Croatia (Šibenik-Knin) and in Tunisia (Kerkennah islands). Both demonstration are advancing well with initial participatory workshops, and will result in a coastal management plan including climate variability considerations adopted.
- Component 3. Capacity building and integration of climate variability into ICZM planning and policy reforms
The two demonstration projects under the component 2 are cross-cutting over the three components of data gathering, analysis and policy, the main activity under the component 3 focused on the development of the Regional Climate Change Adaptation Framework for the Mediterranean marine and coastal zones (RCCAF). The RCCAF, based on the request of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention, to be presented at COP 19 is on track. The first consultation of the RCCAF took place in the framework of the MSSD review process and the first draft of the table of contents and the consultation calendar were presented at the Climate Change Expert Group held in Barcelona in September 2014. The first meeting of the advisory panel to the RCCAF in the Mediterranean was held on 18 December 2014 with the aim to provide technical expert input to the elaboration process.

Output 1.2 - Implementation gap filled: Contracting Parties supported in meeting the objectives of Barcelona Convention, protocols and adopted strategies

a) Legal progress/compliance and reporting

37. The entry into force of UNEP/MAP-Barcelona Convention legal instruments has made new progress during the last months with the ratification by Israel of the Emergency Protocol (2002). The overall situation is described in the following paragraphs. In addition, the amended Convention is pending ratification of only two countries (Bosnia and Herzegovina and Lebanon) while most of its legal instruments have entered into force. Contacts are on-going with those two countries to achieve the universal ratification in the course of 2015.
38. Regarding the number of Contracting Parties having reported on measures taken to implement the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols, the Secretariat received as at 10 December 2014 reports of 9 Contracting Parties (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Cyprus, European Union, Greece, Italy, Lebanon, Montenegro, Morocco, and Turkey) pursuant to Article 26 of the Barcelona Convention on measures taken to implement the Convention and its Protocols for the 2012-2013 biennium.

39. The Compliance Committee held its Ninth Meeting in Split, Croatia on 27-28 November 2014. The agenda of the meeting was dedicated to the definition of specific actions for the implementation of the recommendation on non-compliance with obligations regarding submission of reports as per Article 26 of the Barcelona Convention, the finalization of criteria for the evaluation of reports by the Secretariat and the Committee to establish compliance, and the assessment of the three reports submitted by Bosnia & Herzegovina, European Union and Turkey. The Compliance Committee recalled that repeated failure to comply with this obligation is a potential situation of non-compliance and requested the Secretariat to send a new reminder letter to the Contracting Parties to submit, in accordance with Decision IG.21/2 of COP 18, their national report, using the online form without delay.
40. In accordance with Decision IG.21/2, the Secretariat launched in June 2014 a process for the elaboration of a simplified and practical draft of the reporting format of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols. At the Ninth Meeting of the Compliance Committee the Secretariat presented an explanatory note on the draft revised reporting format related to the implementation of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols. The Compliance Committee made its preliminary comments on this document and decided to follow up the assessment of this draft revised format at its next meeting scheduled at the end of March 2015.
41. In accordance with Decision IG.21/2, the Secretariat has prepared the draft of the operational section of the reporting format of ICZM Protocol. The Secretariat held a meeting on 26 November 2014 with PAP/RAC for the assessment of this draft operational section before its submission for consideration by the next MAP focal points meeting. As a follow-up of the letter sent by the Secretariat to the Contracting Parties which have ratified or signed ICZM Protocol to submit on a voluntary basis a report on its implementation, three Contracting Parties (Montenegro, Morocco and Spain) which have ratified or signed ICZM Protocol have submitted their reports.

b) Implementation of Ecosystem Approach (EcAp)

42. Building on the work of the monitoring expert group meetings of the earlier semester (CORMON meetings, held between May-June 2014), the Secretariat prepared and presented the draft Monitoring and Assessment Methodological Guidance to the 4th Meeting of the EcAp Coordination Group (EcAp CG) in Athens, Greece on 9-10 October 2014. In addition, in close cooperation with the Secretariats of the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM) and the Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and contiguous Atlantic Sea (ACCOBAMS), additional common indicators and methodological specifics for their monitoring on fisheries and noise related targets were proposed at the EcAp CG.
43. The EcAp CG set up specific online expert working groups, with the aim to further specify monitoring requirements and address outstanding issues in relation to monitoring and assessment both in these online groups and in the upcoming Integrated CORMON (25-27 February 2015, Rome, Italy).
44. While the EcAp Measures Gap Analysis was foreseen to be undertaken in 2015, based on the request of various Contracting Parties, the Secretariat has prepared an early draft of the analysis and presented it in October 2014 at the EcAp CG. Contracting Parties were requested at this EcAp CG meeting to send their written comments on the Initial Gap Analysis, to enable the Secretariat to further develop it in a timely manner. In line with the discussions undertaken at the EcAp CG, a more detailed EcAp Measures Gap Analysis will be discussed in March-July 2015 at MAP focal points meetings .
45. Building on the June 2014 expert-level meeting on socio-economic elements of EcAp (COR ESA), at the EcAp CG in October 2014, both the "Economic and Social Analysis of the uses of the coastal and marine waters in the Mediterranean" and the "Scoping study of the assessment of the costs of degradation of the Mediterranean marine ecosystems" were presented to the

Contracting Parties. Written comments were asked from the Contracting Parties by 31 October 2014, however no comments were received on the above two studies, thus they will be presented in their same formats to the MAP focal points meeting in 2015.

46. Building on the outcomes of the 3rd Offshore Protocol Working Group meeting of June 2014, the draft Offshore Action Plan was presented and discussed (with a focus on links with EcAp monitoring) at the EcAp CG. Contracting Parties were encouraged to send comments on this draft Action Plan by 31 October 2014. Based on the comments received an updated draft Offshore Action Plan was prepared and will be presented at the MAP focal points meeting in 2015.
47. In addition to EcAp CG meeting (Athens, Greece on 9-10 October 2014), to ensure overall coordination between the UNEP/MAP components in the implementation of EcAp, informal EcAp Task Force meetings are held on bi-monthly basis. Furthermore, the Secretariat aims to ensure synergy with key partners and EcAp relevant initiatives in the Mediterranean, thus it attends and presents developments on EcAp in the EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive (EU MSFD), GFCM and other EcAp related scientific meetings.
48. SPA/RAC facilitated the initiation to develop a regional monitoring system by the preparation of a guidance document on monitoring for the EO1: Biodiversity and its common indicators 3-5 i.e. Species distributional range; Population abundance of selected species (marine mammals, seabirds, marine reptiles and monk seals); and Population demographic characteristics.
49. The Secretariat and PAP/RAC prepared a concept note for an EcAp implementation pilot project on land-use change in the Adriatic region focusing on testing the common EcAp indicators on the coast. The project is planned to start in early 2015, with a limited time-frame, aiming to present its results in the 2015 PAP/RAC focal points meeting.
50. The GES definitions and targets were taken into account in the guidelines to assess pollution hot spots and sensitive areas, to estimate National Baseline Budget (NBB) and economic analysis of programmes of measures. The MED POL programme led the establishment of the virtual on line groups to assess and propose thresholds and Environmental Assessment Criteria (EAC) for a number of contaminants and nutrient as well as baselines for marine litter related indicators.

c) Development of new and revision of existing Regional Strategies and Action Plans

51. During the period under review, REMPEC prepared templates assessing the level of implementation of the Specific Objectives of the Regional Strategy for Prevention of and Response to Marine Pollution from Ships for each Contracting Party. Where possible, the Centre completed parts of the assessment template from information available on the Country Profile pages on REMPEC's website and the Barcelona Convention Reporting System (BCRS). REMPEC's Operational focal points (i.e. Prevention and OPRC focal points) were requested to review jointly their respective national specific template. The assessment of the implementation of the Specific Objectives by REMPEC as identified in the Regional Strategy has also been carried out. The new revised Draft Regional Strategy will be presented to the ad hoc meeting of the Representatives of the Contracting Parties scheduled for March 2015 and also during the REMPEC focal points meeting prior to its submission to the MAP focal points and Contracting Parties meetings.
52. As mentioned in para. 46 above, the draft Offshore Protocol Action Plan, adopted by the 3rd Offshore Protocol Working Group meeting (17-18 June 2014, Attard, Malta) was submitted to the 4th meeting of the EcAp Coordination Group (9-10 October 2014, Athens, Greece), which provided a set of recommendations. With a view to submitting the Reviewed Draft Offshore Action Plan and a document compiling all related comments to the MAP focal points meeting scheduled for March 2015, Offshore and MAP focal points were requested to forward their comments to REMPEC.
53. Regarding the development of the SCP Action Plan for the Mediterranean, the following activities were carried out in the reporting period:

- The following documents were developed: **(i)** the table of contents of the SCP Action Plan; **(ii)** the Consultation document for the SCP Action Plan consultation processes; and **(iii)** the first draft of the SCP Action Plan.
- In the framework of the consultation process on the SCP Action Plan, SCP/RAC: **(i)** organised on 1-2 October 2014, in Marseille (France) a Regional Stakeholders' Consultation meeting held back to back with the Expert Workshop on Green Economy in the framework of the Review of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD), organised by Plan Bleu in collaboration with SCP/RAC; **(ii)** conducted an online consultation process, which was open from 16 October until 4 November 2014 through the SWITCH-Med platform; **(iii)** two face-to-face meetings of the Mediterranean SCP Independent Expert Group (MSEG), on 9 September and 27-28 October 2014 respectively, Barcelona, Spain; **(iv)** organised the Extraordinary National Focal Points meeting on the SCP Action Plan on 25-26 November 2014 in Barcelona, which aimed at consulting the countries on the first draft of the SCP Action Plan. The meeting was organised following green event guidelines and the organising team took care of communicating all the applied measures to the participants.
- During this semester SCP/RAC has published the French version of the SCP Toolkit for Policy-Makers¹. Furthermore, hard copies of the English and French versions were sent to the Mediterranean countries.

54. A more restricted number of indicators, which represent an integrated package to measure the progress towards the implementation of the LBS protocol/NAPs/Regional Plans and H2020 were discussed at the MED POL focal points meeting in December 2014. These indicators based on the prioritisation criteria recommended at the MED POL focal points meeting in March 2014, in which 49 listed existing indicators underwent a prioritization scoring exercise.

d) Review of Mediterranean Strategy on Sustainable Development (MSSD)

55. Following the Steering Committee meeting in June 2014 in Malta, a Core Group consisting of the Maltese MCSD Steering Committee Presidency, Plan Bleu and the UNEP/MAP Secretariat has been set up and is holding weekly teleconferences to manage the review process. The process is also supported by the MSSD Task Force, composed of representatives of UNEP/MAP Coordinating Unit and Regional Activity Centers, which holds teleconferences on a monthly basis.
56. For each of the six themes recommended by the MCSD Steering Committee (Seas and coasts; Natural resources, rural development and food; Climate; Sustainable cities; Transition towards a green economy; and Governance) a Thematic Working Group (TWG) was established. MCSD members, MAP focal points, MAP Partner institutions and major stakeholders in the region were invited to participate and/or nominate experts to contribute to the work of the TWGs. At the same time, in September 2014, a team of thematic experts was engaged to support the work of each TWG. A senior expert has also been engaged to supervise the process, collect the output of TWGs and draft the new strategy.
57. In line with the methodology provided by the Steering Committee, inputs were collected on issues, strategic directions, actions (national and regional) and flagship initiatives for MSSD 2.0. A series of face-to-face meetings of TWGs 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 took place on 19-20 November 2014, in Sophia-Antipolis, France, immediately after the conclusion of the online consultation process. TWG5 has had a face-to-face meeting at the end of September 2014, during an event of Plan Bleu, SCP/RAC and the Secretariat. The outcome of all these meetings are being consolidated by the senior adviser and the draft MSSD 2.0 will be available for the preliminary comments of the Contracting Parties and stakeholders before the MSSD Review Conference, which will take place in Malta with kind hosting of Maltese Government on 17-18 February 2015.

¹ French version of the SCP Toolkit for Policy Makers: <http://www.cprac.org/fr/media/etudes/manuels-methodologiques>

Output 1.3 - Knowledge and information effectively managed and communicated

a) Information Systems

58. The InfoMAP Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDI) is the component of InfoMAP intended to manage and make available data services on spatial data, providing services such as searching, browsing and downloading services. During the period, INFO/RAC proceeded to installation and configuration of a new software suite, i.e. GeoPlatform, entirely based on open source software.
59. The Barcelona Convention Reporting System (BCRS) is the component of InfoMAP Data Centre devoted to management of compliance information on Barcelona Convention and its protocols has been operational for 2012-2013 biennium reporting cycle. INFO/RAC assured the functionality of servers and software, the issues of credentials for authorised users designed from CPs, and the helpdesk both for Countries' users, Secretariat and other RAC's users.
60. Within the CAMP programme, INFO/RAC provides the CAMP-Italy project with technical solutions and assistance to cross-cutting activities such as information, communication, participation and awareness raising, on the basis of its mandate and internal expertise; within this project, INFO/RAC will develop the InfoMAP participatory platform, thus implementing the information and communication technology (I&CT) component of the Agorà project, using the ICZM as a pilot topic. In the period under consideration the web-site of the project, which is an important building block of the information exchange platform, was designed and made operational.
61. MED POL, in collaboration with INFO/RAC, prepared the National Baseline Budget (NBB) infosystem, for which a demonstration was made at the MED POL FP meeting in December 2014. The system will be tested in January 2015. NBB/PRTR data upload is expected by the Contracting Parties in early 2015.
62. The new NBB on line system will ensure full compatibility with PRTR which would enable that the Contracting Parties with a strong PRTR system in place would be in a position to upload their annual PRTR data thus avoiding duplication of reporting efforts.

b) Communications and Knowledge Management

63. Following the ECP decision, a Communications Task Force was established. The Task Force is composed of one representative from each MAP Component. It has a role to create synergies on improving visibility of MAP; operationalize the communication strategy as adopted in COP17; design a communication plan for the 40th Anniversary of MAP; prepare a joint media list containing the contacts of each Component and the Coordinating Unit; and develop and maintain calendar of relevant national, regional and global events that could be of media interest. The Task Force will hold bi-monthly meetings, either in person when possible or through on-line means.
64. The 2014 celebration of the Mediterranean Coast Day, focused on climate change issues, was held in Tunisia on 25 September 2014 with the participation of more than 150 local, national and international representatives at both: the technical workshop and the forum of NGOs and civil society associations. A promotional video was produced and shown during the celebration. The video is accepted to be presented at the Think Forward Film Festival in Venice, in December 2014.
65. Together with partners from the Šibenik-Knin County a local Coast Day celebration was organised in Croatia on 19 September 2014, in connection with the ICZM & Climate Variability and Change (CVC) Plan that is being prepared for this county.

3.2 Integrated Coastal Zone Management (Theme II)

Output 2.1 - Coastal zone management achieves effective balance between development and protection (sustainable development of coastal zone)

a) Technical Assistance and Capacity Building

66. PAP/RAC supported interested Contracting Parties in their efforts to develop National ICZM Strategies:

- The second Draft of the ICZM Strategy for Algeria was prepared and discussed with competent national authorities. Three regional consultation workshops (Centre, East and West) were held in order to discuss the second draft and get inputs for the finalisation of the Strategy.
- Following a series of meetings with national and local authorities and other stakeholders, the ICZM Strategy for Montenegro has been finalised for adoption by the Government and presentation at the CAMP Montenegro final conference, together with the results of the CAMP itself and the Coastal Area Spatial Plan that actually makes a unique document with the strategy (Budva, 18 December 2014).
- Following several working meetings, the final draft of the Socio-economic Analysis for the Croatian Marine and Coastal Strategy was prepared, translated and submitted for public consultation. The comments received are being processed.
- A Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) was signed with the University of Thessaly for the implementation of a pilot project on Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) in Greece.

67. The reporting period has been an active time for CAMPs:

- All thematic reports within CAMP Montenegro were made ready for presentation at the CAMP Final Conference in Budva, on 18 December 2014. SCP/RAC, together with the SPA/RAC, developed the Feasibility Study “Ecotourism for local development in Boka Kotorska (Montenegro)”. The study has been published in SCP/RAC website.
- The Inception Report for CAMP Italy was prepared and the Inception Workshop organised in Alghero, Italy, on 12 November 2014.
- The Agreement for CAMP France was signed and the arrangements are being made for the engagement of the national project coordinator.
- The Inception Report for the assessment of CAMPs was prepared and the Inception meeting held in Split, on 25-26 November 2014. Desk study has started and visits to countries agreed, the first one being to Montenegro at the occasion of the CAMP Final Conference on 18 December 2014.

68. Regarding the implementation of ICZM Protocol, the following progress has been achieved:

- The Steering Committee for the finalisation of the Réghaïa coastal plan and its implementation was officialised by a decree of the Wali of Algiers. A meeting was held in Réghaïa (20 November 2014) to validate the action plan and find financing options for the actions proposed.
- The Buna/Bojana Integrated Management Plan (IMP) has been drafted and submitted to national experts for comments.
- Furthermore, a feasibility study and a training workshop on Ecotourism for local development in Boka Kotorska, Montenegro, was elaborated to support CAMP Montenegro on sustainable development topics.

3.3 Biodiversity (Theme III)

Output 3.1 - Ecosystem services provided by the marine and coastal environment identified and valued

69. SPA/RAC works with Plan Bleu and Slovenian SPA/RAC Focal Point to organize a training workshop in Slovenia at the end of January 2015. Ten countries are concerned by this training (Albania, Algeria, Croatia, Egypt, Lebanon, Libya, Montenegro, Morocco, Slovenia, , Tunisia and Turkey). Three cases will be developed; on three pilot sites concerned by the MedMPAnet project, by participants and the trainers in their respective countries. This activity is planned to be finalized by April 2015.

Output 3.2 - Biodiversity conservation and sustainable use (strategic vision, new objectives in the post 2010 context, including fisheries, ballast, non-indigenous species), endangered and threatened species

a) Revision and implementation of Regional Action Plans, species list and other biodiversity policies

70. A replication activity, within the MedPartnership Programme, concerning the running of ecological and socio-economic studies in view of the creation of an MPA in the North-Eastern part of Kerkennah Islands (Tunisia) kicked-off. A detailed work-plan was set out and the experts were identified jointly by SPA/RAC and the Tunisian Coastal Protection and Planning Agency.

b) Technical Assistance and Capacity Building

71. The meeting of the Contracting Parties of the CBD (COP12, Pyeongchang, South Korea, October 2014) adopted 16 Mediterranean EBSAs, which had been initially proposed by the Mediterranean Regional Workshop to facilitate the description of EBSAs, co-organized by SPA/RAC (Malaga, Spain, April 2014). This formal international recognition of the ecological and biological importance of these Mediterranean areas will send strong signals to decision-makers and serve the Barcelona Convention in its work on marine conservation. One EBSA was withdrawn from the list due to some political complexities but is still valid as a priority area for potential SPAMI candidate sites.
72. SPA/RAC collaborated with ACCOBAMS to organise the Third Biennial Conference on Cetacean Conservation in South Mediterranean Countries which was held in Jounieh (Lebanon), from 21 to 23 October 2014.
73. A national training session on the monitoring of Loggerhead turtles nesting in Kuriat Islands (Tunisia) was held during August 2014. This activity was jointly organised with APAL (National Agency for the protection management of the Littoral) and INSTM (National Institute on marine and technology sciences).
74. SPA/RAC initiated a regional programme (MedKeyHabitats Project) aiming at assisting some Mediterranean countries in mapping key marine habitats and promoting their conservation through the establishment of SPAMIs and is pursuing its support to several countries in establishing new MPAs and enhancing the management of existent ones. The activities within the countries concerned by the project were identified and a Memorandum of Cooperation was signed.
75. Within the framework of the MedKeyHabitats Project implementation the following activities were undertaken:
- (i) A Mediterranean training session on mapping of key habitats was organised in Kuriat Islands, Monastir, Tunisia, from 18 to 24 August 2014.
 - (ii) A preliminary field Mission was organised in Djbel Moussa (Morocco, 13-20 September 2014) in order to identify the main marine key habitats and their distribution where mission for mapping will be implemented during 2015.

(iii) Four sites were identified, where mapping activities are planned:

- Montenegro: Platomuni and Ratac
- Morocco: Djbel Moussa
- Tunisie: Cap Negro - Sidi Mechreg
- Libya: El kouf: (only capacity building will be done for Libyan experts outside the country).

(iv) SPA/RAC organised in collaboration with the Institute of the Republic of Slovenia for Nature conservation symposia on marine key habitats in Portoroz from 27 to 31 October 2014. The event was composed of three symposiums :

- The 5th Mediterranean symposium on marine vegetation (27 - 28 October 2014)
- The 2nd Mediterranean symposium on coralligenous and other calcareous bio-concretions (29 - 30 October 2014)
- The 1st Mediterranean symposium on the dark habitats (31 October 2014).

76. The National Ballast Water Management (BWM) Convention Twinning Workshop was held in Morocco, 25-26 November 2014 in close co-operation with IMO's GloBallast Project Coordination Unit and the national Moroccan competent authorities, thanks to the USD 25,000 mobilised and secured from IMO's Integrated Technical Co-operation Programme (ITCP). The Workshop was the first concrete example of the twinning concept under the GloBallast Project, in which a Lead Partnering Country (i.e. Turkey), experienced in the development of national BWM assessments and strategy, assisted a country from the region (i.e. Morocco) to establish a national task force for the management of ballast water and explained the benefits and importance of adopting a national strategy for a smooth implementation of the Ballast Water Management Convention.

Output 3.3 - Network of Marine and Coastal Protected Areas (MPAs), including Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ), extended, strengthened and effectively managed

a) Technical Assistance and Capacity Building

77. The ongoing work on the creation of Specially Protected Areas for Mediterranean Interest (SPAMIs) in the open seas including in areas beyond national jurisdiction (ABNJs) has made progress through the implementation of two consultation meetings for the neighbouring countries of the two priority areas: Sicily channel/Tunisian plateau and the Adriatic open seas. Major key results were two roadmaps for each respective area indicating the way forward in the process to identify, establish and declare SPAMIs in the open seas. For each priority area, thematic reports on the status of conservation of seabirds, fisheries and cetaceans together with a general ecology report were presented and they are currently under review by the involved countries (i.e. Sicily channel/Tunisian plateau: Italy, Libya, Malta, Tunisia; and Adriatic Sea: Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Italy, Montenegro and Slovenia). There were announcements of the second round of meetings to be held in Rome, Italy, April 2015. Additionally, an international conference will be organised in June 2015 in order to discuss the SPAMI process (representativeness, coherence, management effectiveness, etc.) in the framework of the MedKeyHabitats project.

b) Assessments / Analyses

78. Regarding the identification and planning of new MPAs to extend the regional network and enhance its ecological representativeness, vast number of activities took place in the reporting period:

- **Albania:** Ecological and Socio-economic study reports of the Porto Palermo Bay area were finalized (in English) and translated into Albanian. The process of elaboration of a Management Plan for the Porto Palermo Bay, based on the ecological and socio-economic studies and discussions with different stakeholders, started in June 2014. The first draft was ready in Albanian language by late September 2014 and has been presented to local authorities during a workshop held on 12 November 2014.
- **Algeria:** The complementary ecological survey in the Réghaia area, as well as the elaboration of a Management Plan kicked-off. Data collection started during August 2014 and field work by late September 2014. The draft study on socio-economic and fisheries activities and identification of local stakeholder participation mechanism in the Réghaia future MPA was reviewed and endorsed by the Algerian Ministry of Environment. SPA/RAC is expecting to receive the final document soon.
- **Croatia:** The Croatian environmental authorities approved the Monitoring Protocols for Posidonia and Coralligenous habitats. The field work planned as part of the addendum was completed before the end of September 2014. The final field survey reports on Posidonia, Coralligenous, and Fisheries, integrating the results of 2013 and 2014 were prepared.
- **Lebanon:** The ecological assessment report of the three priority marine sites (Naqoura, Sidon, Tyre) suitable to become MPAs in Lebanon was finalized. Discussions with the Ministry of Environment of Lebanon led to the decision to run the final presentation workshop of the ecological assessments made in Naqoura, Sidon and Tyre sites in the beginning of 2015 in Beirut.
- **Libya:** The draft Law on Protected Areas in Libya is pending consideration and adoption by the Libyan Government, including the final version of the National Strategy for MPA establishment in Libya for stakeholders review. The Toolkit on Stakeholders Participation in Marine and Coastal Protected Areas establishment in Libya is under finalization.
- **Montenegro:** The report on “Legal and institutional framework assessment for the conservation of coastal and marine biodiversity and the establishment of MPAs in Montenegro” is under finalization. The report on marine biodiversity status and the feasibility study on ecotourism of Boka Kotorska were finalized in September 2014, and endorsed by the Montenegrin environmental authorities.
- **Morocco:** The diagnostic-assessment phase was finalized and a second workshop will be held in Nador, early October 2014, in order to present the assessment results and discuss the management vision and objectives with the various stakeholders of the Cap des Trois Fourches future MPA.
- **Tunisia:** The first draft of the Management Plan of the Kuriat Islands MPA has been submitted for the Tunisian Coastal Protection and Planning Agency for comments, before being finalized and presented during a stakeholders’ public workshop. The first draft of the Report on local stakeholder participation mechanism for the Kuriat Islands MPA has been submitted to SPA/RAC for comments.

c) Elaboration of MPA creation guidelines and teaching packages

79. The technical tool ‘Monitoring Mediterranean Lesser Crested Terns *Thalasseus Bengalensis Emigratus*’ was electronically published (in English) and disseminated through the web. Additionally, an advanced draft of the Manual on Coastal Biota and their Environmental Monitoring in Mediterranean MPAs was prepared in Spanish. Also, the annotated contents and structure of the Teaching Package on Ecological Monitoring in Mediterranean MPAs was prepared and agreed upon.

d) Improved MPA management

80. SPA/RAC supported the Tunisian APAL and INSTM in running the summer turtles monitoring campaign in Kuriat Islands and also providing training to a number of Tunisian and non-Tunisian young scientists in turtle nesting sites monitoring techniques.
81. SPA/RAC organized, from 22 to 27 September 2014 in Santa Pola and Nueva Tabarca Marine Reserve (Spain), the 4th Regional training session on ecological monitoring in MPAs protected areas, in collaboration with CIMAR (University of Alicante). Ten MPA managers and practitioners, and marine researchers, from Algeria, Croatia, Egypt, Lebanon, Montenegro and Tunisia, took part to this session.
82. SPA/RAC is providing its support to 9 marine scientists and MPA practitioners (from Albania, Croatia, Montenegro, Morocco, and Spain), to attend the SPA/RAC-convened Symposia on the Conservation of Mediterranean Marine Key Habitats (Portorož, Slovenia, 27-31 October 2014) and present the results of the MedMPAnet project habitat-related field assessments.

3.4 Pollution Control and Prevention (Theme IV)

Output 4.1 - Early warning of pollution (spills, dangerous/hazardous substances)

a) Assessments / Analyses

83. The MED POL Monitoring Data base was updated with the 2012 data provided by Cyprus, Israel, Tunisia, and Turkey. However the reporting of monitoring data from all the countries remains a challenge.
84. Based on the new data provided, the Secretariat has started the work for defining assessment criteria for contaminants. With regards to the inventory of pollutant loads per country referred to as the National Baseline Budget (NBB) only two countries have submitted the 2013 NBB (Egypt and Israel). The work in other countries is ongoing and expected to be finalized by January 2015. During the period under reporting, financial and technical support was provided to Lebanon in addition to the five countries (Albania, Egypt, Montenegro, Morocco and Turkey) supported in the first six months of the biennium.
85. The International Atomic Environmental Agency (IAEA) has supported the implementation of a quality assurance programme for contaminants through inter-calibration exercise for the MED POL monitoring designated laboratories as well as training courses for 12 national experts. Fourteen countries designated their laboratories to participate in contaminant monitoring proficiency test. The proficiency tests and training on organic contaminants and heavy metals were carried out in September and October 2014.
86. Efforts are being made to initiate the quality assurance programme for nutrient related parameters in the framework of Quasimeme, pending funds availability. Collaboration was also initiated with the University of Alessandria, Italy, to support countries and train national monitoring experts on biological effect monitoring for a number of biomarkers, pending funds availability.

b) Technical Assistance and Capacity Building

87. With regards to strengthening of environmental inspection, two back to back regional training workshops were held in Athens, Greece on 25-27 November 2014 addressing up-to-date pollution control assessment tools as well as compliance and enforcement in line with Land Based Sources and Activities (LBS) Protocol of the Barcelona Convention.
88. Three virtual expert groups were established with clear terms of reference with more than 10 representatives from the contracting parties on marine litter, contaminants and eutrophication.
89. Within the framework of the MEDESS-4MS Project, REMPEC co-organised the Sub-Regional End User Meeting for Western Mediterranean and Tyrrhenian (La Seyne-sur-Mer, France, 8 July 2014) and the MEDESS-4MS “Serious Game”(SG) carried out between 16 and 17 September 2014, in the framework of the annual RAMOGEPol Exercise. The test carried out during the SG showed promising results, as the trajectory of the buoys corroborated with the predictions of the forecasting models.
90. Discussions on the extension of the MoU between the Mediterranean Oceanography Network for Global Ocean Observing System (MONGOOS) and REMPEC in the framework of REMPEC’s Mediterranean Assistance Unit (MAU) were initiated. MONGOOS was activated during the above mentioned RAMOGEPol Exercise.
91. A project proposal submitted by the “Centre de documentation de recherche et d’expérimentations sur les pollutions accidentelles des eaux” (CEDRE) for the extension of the two year project for Preparedness for Oil-Polluted Shoreline Cleanup and Oiled Wildlife interventions (POSOW) to the Southern Mediterranean region (Algeria, Egypt, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Tunisia and Turkey) entitled POSOW 2 was approved for funding by the European Commission’s Civil Protection Financial Instrument.
92. An IMO ITCP funded National Training on preparedness for oil-polluted shoreline cleanup and oiled wildlife interventions was organised by REMPEC in Algiers, Algeria, between 27 and 29 October 2014, in close co-operation with the Algerian national competent authorities. Thirty participants attended the training.

Output 4.2 - Lower levels of pollution in the Mediterranean marine and coastal environments

a) Regional Policy Implementation

93. With the view to raise the political profile of NAP update as a legally binding requirement under the LBS Protocol of the Barcelona Convention a letter was sent by the Secretariat to the Ministers of the Environment of all countries highlighting the importance of this process and the benefits for ensuring a well coordinated process at national and regional levels. Five Contracting Parties have established the National coordination structures for the NAP update while other Contracting Parties are in a process of identifying key local experts to support the process. In addition the Secretariat mobilized important external resources through UfM H2020 to support the NAP update process in the southern Mediterranean countries.
94. Collaboration with UNOPS for the tendering and selection of PCB Disposal Company was concluded in June 2014. The contract was signed in July 2014. The contractor has visited 3 countries to audit the project sites. Some delays have occurred for the site visit in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The PCB disposal process is expected to be carried out by February - March 2015 . Egypt and Turkey have requested to dispose 60 and 99 additional tons of PCBs respectively.

b) Technical Assistance and Capacity Building

95. The setting up of the national institutional structure at national levels for NAP update progressed through secured financial and technical assistance in agreement with UfM H2020 capacity

building component for southern Mediterranean countries as well as through the UNEP/MAP-GEF Medpartnership project for the other eligible countries.

96. Several technical assistance missions were organised and held in southern Mediterranean countries co-organised with INFO/RAC to support SEIS implementation and data quality assurance programmes on pollution monitoring in accordance with Article 12 of the Convention and Article 8 of the LBS protocol.
97. Two training courses on monitoring techniques concerning organic contaminants and heavy metals were held and organised in Monaco by International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in collaboration with the MED POL Programme for 12 participants appointed by the Contracting Parties. In addition 14 countries participated in the Inter-calibration exercise organised by IAEA on contaminants monitoring techniques.
98. The Regional Workshop on Environmental Inspectorate was held in Athens, Greece on 25-27 November 2014. The workshop delivered a number of recommendations on ways and means to enhance compliance and enforcement in the Mediterranean as well as on key priorities of Secretariat's work in this field. Two national workshops on environmental inspectorate in Egypt and Morocco were supported with financial and technical assistance. Both workshops were held in December 2014 in Alexandria, Egypt and Rabat, Morocco.
99. With the objective of increasing the technical support to countries on the sound management of chemicals and the use of alternatives to toxic chemicals SCP/RAC has developed: (i) a collaboration agreement with the Secretariat of the Rotterdam Convention to review an electronic toolkit on environmental sound management of industrial chemicals and organization of a technical meeting with experts from 17 countries; (ii) SCP/RAC prepared the project proposal "Promotion of non-chemical alternatives in the Mediterranean" with the aim to promote non-chemical alternatives in six Mediterranean countries that are members of SAICM (Algeria, Egypt, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia) and submitted it to the SAICM QSP (Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management / Quick Start Programme).
100. In the framework of the Regional Plan of Marine Litter, SCP/RAC has prepared, per request of MED POL, a list of priority prevention measures and associated indicators according to their expected direct impact in the reduction of plastic litter in the short and medium term.
101. SCP/RAC has reviewed and completed the final version of "Guidelines on Best Environmental Practices for ESM of Mercury Polluted sites in the framework of the implementation of Article 15 of the LBS Protocol".
102. A portfolio of project concepts for SCP pilot activities has been sent to Algeria, Lebanon, Morocco and Tunisia to implement elements of existing/on-going national SCP or Green Economy related processes. Some of the suggested activities have a special focus on POPs, toxic chemicals, food sector and marine litter. Lebanon has requested to implement a pilot activity on the Life Cycle Management in cattle slaughterhouses or wineries and Tunisia has identified a pilot activity on organic waste in the Djerba Island.

3.5 Sustainable Consumption and Production (Theme V)

Output 5.1 - Drivers affecting ecosystems addressed: economic activities, patterns of consumption, infrastructure and spatial development more sustainable

a) Technical Assistance and Capacity Building

103. As part of its collaboration with UNEP/DTIE under the framework of SWITCH-Med, SCP/RAC organised a training session on mainstreaming SCP within key economic sectors in Jordan, one of the SWITCH-Med beneficiary countries. The session, based on the SCP Policy Toolkit, took place during the two days technical workshop - kick off meeting- which was organized by the

Jordanian Ministry of Environment (Amman, 22-23 October 2014) with the support of the SWITCH-Med programme.

104. Regarding the training and support programme for green entrepreneurs SCP/RAC has developed scoping missions to Morocco, from 27-30 October 2014, and Algeria, from 17-20 November 2014. In parallel, the process for the local partner selection in Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia was launched. Likewise, under the Small Grant Project Proposal “Supporting Green Entrepreneurs for a POPs free Mediterranean” through which SCP/RAC was awarded by the Stockholm Convention Secretariat with 40,000 Euros to increase actions in support to the use of alternatives to toxic chemicals, the centre has developed a training Module on Green Entrepreneurship & Hazardous Chemicals Substitution Process, that will be used as complementary training tool in the green entrepreneurs training programme. The Centre organised also a training workshop in Algeria (18-19 November 2014) on hazardous chemicals substitution process, with the participation of approximately 50 people. With regard to the training programme for Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), the above mentioned scoping missions developed in Algeria and Morocco have enabled the Centre to start mapping potential local organizations that may be involved in the training and support programme for CSOs planned for 2015-2017.
105. A portfolio of project concepts has been sent to Algeria, Lebanon, Morocco and Tunisia to implement elements of existing/on-going national SCP or Green Economy related processes, with special focus on sustainable public procurement, tourism and ICZM.
106. Regarding the Mediterranean SCP Networking Facility, SCP/RAC has continued the development of the already on-going activities and has initiated new ones:
- The sections dedicated to various stakeholders/communities of the SWITCH-Med platform are continuously updated and maintained and each week at least one news item is posted on the web platform. It was published and sent the first newsletter in October². Furthermore, the professional social network³ has grown reaching to 150 members.
 - A fact sheet was prepared with initial information on the regional networking event of the SWITCH-Med Programme that will be held on 28-30 October 2015 in Barcelona.
 - Following workshops and side events have been organised: (i) session titled “Sustainable production and use of alternative chemicals” within the 34th Dioxin Conference (1st September, 2014 in Madrid, Spain)); (ii) workshop titled “Building Ecosystem for Sustainable Entrepreneurship” within SEED Africa Symposium, (10-11th September 2014 in Nairobi, Kenya); (iii) workshop “Joint SWITCH-Med and SWITCH-Asia Workshop: An overview of leveraging approaches for scaling-up green industry and green entrepreneurship efforts” within the European Roundtable on Consumption and Production (ERSCP) 2014 (15-17 October 2014 in Portoroz, Slovenia); (iv) webinar “Opportunities for the Circular Economy in the Mediterranean” within the Disruptive Innovation Festival of Ellen Mac Arthur Foundation (13 November 2014 - online); (v) workshop “Financing pathways for green business and sustainable entrepreneurs” within the Global Eco Forum, which is part of the Mediterranean Week of Economic Leaders (28 November 2014 in Barcelona, Spain).
 - Based on a collaboration agreement with the Catalan Waste Agency, SCP/RAC hosting Agency, SCP/RAC is contributing to the support to Mediterranean countries to promote eco-design through the dissemination of the Catalonia Award on Eco-design funded by that Agency and that is open to companies, designers and students from Mediterranean countries.
107. In the framework of the 2nd Mediterranean Water Forum (Murcia, Spain, 25-27 November 2014), Plan Bleu, Agence Française de Développement (AFD) and Marseille Center for Mediterranean Integration (CMI) organized a workshop on water demand management (WDM). The overall objective of the workshop was to support the Mediterranean countries in water demand

² First SWITCH-Med newsletter: <http://bit.ly/1yJPC2k>

³ Professional social network of SWITCH-Med: <http://www.switchmed.eu/en/join-the-action-network>

management policies' development and adaptation. This workshop draws on the previous regional workshops on WDM organized by Plan Bleu and its partners. The workshop was structured around 4 thematic issues:

- Monitoring of the progresses achieved, promoting of the WDM policies in the Mediterranean and the difficulties experienced;
- WDM economic tools. On this occasion, the synthesis report drafted on this issue in the framework of CMI WDM programme was made public;
- Intersectoral water efficiency, allocation choices and virtual water;
- Groundwater and aquifers management as common resources.

The specific objectives were as follows:

- Sharing knowledge and analysis from the CMI programme on WDM economic approach;
- Disseminating the solutions and good practices on WDM and facilitating regional cooperation in this field;
- Identifying these works potential contribution to the implementation of the "Water" component to the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD) and the achievements of the MED1.14 and MED1.25 targets adopted during the 6th World Water Forum;
- Promoting the Mediterranean Approach at international scale;

3.6 Climate Change (Theme VI)

Output 6.1 - Mediterranean region able to face climate change challenges through a better understanding of potential impacts and ecological vulnerabilities

108. The draft Climate Variability and Change learning material was prepared and submitted to PAP/RAC for comments in late November 2014. The preparation of the report on the assessment of the CVC impact on global insurance and banking sector is in progress.

109. To define a regional core set of indicators to monitor climate variability and change in coastal zones, Plan Bleu organized a technical workshop to discuss and agree on a regional core set of indicators in its premises, in Sophia Antipolis, France, from 20 to 21 November 2014. The objectives of this regional workshop were to:

- Comment the common issues (at regional level) identified by Plan Bleu through previous activities,
- Select indicators related to the issues and make suggestions about the core set,
- Discuss about national data availability and providers.

110. A presentation of the Mediterranean Integrated Climate Information Platform (MedICIP) developed within the frame of this project in order to share information and data among (first) participating countries, was done by Plan Bleu.

111. The first UfM Climate Change Expert Group meeting (CEEG) held in Barcelona the 13 and 14 October 2014 and attended by the MAP Coordinator and the MedPartnership Project Manager. During the meeting the role of MAP in the climate change management in the Mediterranean Sea was highlighted, the Climate Change Adaptation Framework for the Mediterranean Marine and Coastal Zones (RCCAF) was presented, several bilateral meetings with the UfM Management and EC DG CLIMA were held and roles and cooperation details on the basis of the UNEP/MAP-UfM Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed in 2013 were clarified. The role and unique nature of the Barcelona Convention as a legally-binding instrument for all Mediterranean Countries and the EU were highlighted both during the plenary session of the CCEG and with UfM managements and EC. Both UfM and UNEP/MAP agreed that although Climate Change is not specifically mentioned in the MoU, it makes sense to address this issue, which is affecting both the coastal and marine ecosystems and all the sectors of interest for UfM (Energy,

Environment, Water and Urban Development). Moreover the CCEG meeting provided an excellent opportunity for MAP to gain visibility and interest for its work on Climate Change adaptation.

112. The Climate Change Adaptation Framework for the Mediterranean Marine and Coastal Zones (RCCAF) is under development through a consultation processes that involves i) a dedicated Advisory Panel including key regional experts, which has already held its first meeting on 18.12.2014 with a second meeting planned for late February 2015; ii) coordination with the preparation of the Climate Chapter of the MSSD 2.0; iii) further consultation steps with national and other stakeholders, leading to submission of the Framework to the UNEP/MAP Focal Points and the Contracting Parties of the Barcelona Convention for formal adoption by late 2015. The RCCAF is prepared by UNEP/MAP in the context of the GEF-funded “Integration of climatic variability and change into national strategies to implement the ICZM Protocol in the Mediterranean” project (“ClimVar & ICZM” Project).
113. The overall objective of the Framework is to identify and develop a regional approach to climate change adaptation in the Mediterranean marine and coastal environment, with common regional priorities in order to increase the resilience of the Mediterranean to climate change. Once adopted by the COP, the Framework will form the basis for the development of a detailed Regional Climate Change Adaptation Action Plan, to be developed within the framework of the Barcelona Convention.

Output 6.2 - Reduced socio-economic vulnerability

114. Within the framework of IMO’s ITCP and in line with REMPEC’s activities included in UNEP/MAP’s programme of work 2014-2015, REMPEC organised the IMO Regional Workshop on MARPOL Annex VI – Ship Energy Efficiency and Technology Transfer, which was held in Istanbul, Turkey, from 3 to 5 November 2014. The Workshop was organized in close co-operation with IMO’s Marine Environment Division (MED) and hosted by the Ministry of Transport, Maritime Affairs and Communications of Turkey, with the support of the Government of Malta .
115. The Regional Workshop provided detailed information with regard to the most recent amendments to Annex VI of the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL), namely its new Chapter 4 (Regulations on energy efficiency for ships), and the responsibilities of Parties under the Convention. The Workshop focused particularly on technology transfer. Interactive group and plenary discussions took place, eliciting the views and needs of the region’s States with regard to technology transfer, which will be fed back to IMO’s Ad Hoc Expert Working Group on the Facilitation of Transfer of Technology for Ships (AHEWG-TT).
116. Final draft of the DIVA⁴ assessment for Croatia was submitted to PAP/RAC for comments in late November 2014. DIVA downscaling for the Sibenik-Knin County is in progress, based on the DIVA Croatia results. Additional information has been collected to encompass important issues resulting from the Diagnostic Analysis of the Sibenik-Knin ICZM Plan. Information and data was handed to PAP/RAC by the Tunisian NFP and forwarded to the DIVA team to be analysed in order to examine the possibilities to improve the Tunisian application of DIVA.
117. Regular working meetings with the team of national experts were held in the framework of the ICZM Plan for Sibenik-Knin region. The Plan was selected to be presented in the EU project guidelines for integration of the adaptation measures in coastal management: the EU drafting team has submitted to PAP/RAC a draft version of the text for comments and complements.

⁴ The DIVA Model is an integrated, state-of-the-art research model of coastal systems that assesses biophysical and socio-economic consequences of sea-level rise and socio-economic development taking into account coastal erosion (both direct and indirect), coastal flooding (including rivers), wetland change and salinity intrusion into deltas and estuaries, as well as adaptation in terms of raising dikes and nourishing shores and beaches.

Output 6.3 - Assess and provide information to reduce adverse environmental impacts of mitigation and adaptation strategies & technologies (e.g. Wind farms, ocean energy, carbon capture and storage)

118. There was no activity planned and carried out under this output in this reporting period.

IV. Challenges, Measures and Management Actions

119. MED POL and PAP/RAC faced the challenge of the late payment or non-payment of MTF annual contributions, which affected the implementation of some activities:

- During the period under reporting, activities by MED POL under Output 4.1 regarding support to countries to implement updated pollution monitoring programmes; the list of priority contaminants; and under Output 4.2 regarding support to countries to prepare inventories of Mercury contaminated sites; development of guidelines and some assessments were postponed due to delays in the availability of MTF funding.

Measures:

Provisions have been made to start their implementation in 2015 as appropriate, based on funding availability.

Efforts concentrated on the activities which are funded by external funds.

- The MedOpen training course by PAP/RAC could not be held and the work on the ICZM Platform has not yet started due to delays in the availability of MTF funding.

Measures:

Negotiations are in progress with the Italian partners to organize MedOpen for the CAMP-Italy participants next year and with INFO/RAC to take over the technical aspects of the course and provide technical infrastructure for ICZM Platform.

120. The funds allocated for the implementation of Regional Action Plans on threatened species (Monk Seal, Cetaceans, Marine Turtles, cartilaginous fishes and seabirds) were limited in 2014 and did not allow the implementation of all planned activities adopted within the framework of their programmes of work.

Measures:

SPA/RAC will follow and ensure full integration of these Action Plans in UNEP/MAP's Midterm Strategy 2016-2021 and biannual Programmes of Work with sufficient funding for implementation both from MTF and external funds.

121. The main challenge regarding compliance processes was the delay in the submission of reports for the Biennium 2012-2013 by Contracting Parties, which in turn delayed the assessment of these reports by the Secretariat and by the Compliance Committee.

Measures:

Reminder letters were sent to the Contracting Parties who had not yet submitted their reports, and close follow-up performed by the Secretariat through MAP Focal Points.

122. In the programme to support green entrepreneurs by SCP/RAC, the access to potential green entrepreneurs is challenging.

Measures:

Instead of identifying a unique local partner in each target country, working with several local partners in each country is prioritized, in order to take advantage of specific opportunities and capacities to engage different kind of potential entrepreneurs.

123. Science-policy interface remains a key challenge, especially in relation to EcAp monitoring work.

Measures:

Building and working closer together with EcAp related scientific projects of the Mediterranean (mainly FP7 funded EU projects) are core part of the risk management strategy in this regard, as well as partnership building with other key players in the region (GFCM, ACCOBAMS) and beyond (e.g.: exchange of best practices with other Regional Sea Conventions, such as OSPAR).

124. SPA/RAC's work on the development of SPAMIs in the open seas is challenging and it largely depends on the engagement of the concerned Contracting Parties.

Measures:

The future phase of establishing SPAMIs in the Mediterranean, in particular in the priority areas of the Alboran Sea, the Adriatic Sea and the Sicily Channel/Tunisian Plateau, will require close follow-up after this phase.

Engaged countries should proceed with selecting SPAMI sites and preparing documents to be adopted at Contracting Parties meetings. This will require continued facilitation and future funding, and will be followed-up by SPA/RAC.

125. With regards to delays on NAP update, the contracting parties should speed up their efforts to establish a sound NAP update institutional set up and organise the national workshops with the stakeholders as early as possible in 2015 with the view to lead a smooth process and deliver on time the updated NAPs.

126. The political situation, changes in governments (structural and staff) and conflicts in some parts the Mediterranean region has had an impact on the implementation of the Programme of Work and Projects, as these conflicts make it impossible to organise activities in some countries and slow down exchanges with these countries.

Measures:

Capacity building activities are organized in other countries to facilitate participation of experts from countries who suffer conflicts.

Continuous update of lists of MAP and RAC Focal Points is undertaken by the Secretariat.

127. There have been internal events occurring in Libya interfering on SPA/RAC's work on the establishment of new coastal MPAs and SPAMIs in the open seas. SPA/RAC's work on the establishment of a new MPA in El Kouf coastal area has been on standby. Concerning the participation of neighbouring countries of Sicily channel/Tunisian plateau, Libya was not able to join the consultation meeting on the development of SPAMIs, held in Gammarth, Tunisia, September 2014.

128. With reference to the COP 18 Decision IG.21/9, which urges all Contracting Parties to nominate as early as possible a Designated Representative with in-depth knowledge of this specific type of offence and to actively participate in the Mediterranean Network of Law Enforcement Officials relating to MARPOL, few nomination were received. REMPEC had sent several requests and reminders to the Contracting Parties. This effort will continue in the first half of 2015.

Annex I
Status of signatures and ratifications of the Convention for the Protection of the Marine
Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean and its Protocols as of
December 2014

Signatures and Ratifications of the Barcelona Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean and its Protocols as at 19 December 2014

Contracting Parties	1976 Barcelona Convention				1976 Dumping Protocol			1976 Emergency Protocol		
	Signature	Ratification	Acceptance of 1995 Amendments	Entered into force	Signature	Ratification	Acceptance of 1995 Amendments	Signature	Ratification	Entered into force
Albania		30.05.90/AC	26.07.01	09.07.04	-	30.05.90/AC	26.07.01	-	30.05.90/AC	29.06.90
Algeria		16.02.81/AC	09.06.04	09.07.04	-	16.03.81/AC	-	-	16.03.81/AC	15.04.81
Bosnia and Herzegovina		22.10.94/SUC	-	-	-	22.10.94/SUC	-	-	22.10.94/SUC	01.03.92
Croatia		12.06.92/SUC	03.05.99	09.07.04	-	12.06.92/SUC	03.05.99	-	12.06.92/SUC	08.10.91
Cyprus	16.02.76	19.11.79	18.07.03	09.07.04	16.02.76	19.11.79	18.07.03	16.02.76	19.11.79	19.12.79
Egypt	16.02.76	24.08.78/AP	11.02.00	09.07.04	16.02.76	24.08.78/AP	11.02.00	16.02.76	24.08.78/AC	23.09.78
European Union	13.09.76	16.03.78/AP	12.11.99	09.07.04	13.09.76	16.03.78/AP	12.11.99	13.09.76	12.08.81/AP	11.09.81
France	16.02.76	11.03.78/AP	29.03.01	09.07.04	16.02.76	11.03.78/AP	29.03.01	16.02.76	11.03.78/AP	10.04.78
Greece	16.02.76	03.01.79	10.03.03	09.07.04	11.02.77	03.01.79	-	16.02.76	03.01.79	02.02.79
Israel	16.02.76	03.03.78	29.09.05	29.10.05	16.02.76	01.03.84	-	16.02.76	03.03.78	02.04.78
Italy	16.02.76	03.02.79	07.09.99	09.07.04	16.02.76	03.02.79	07.09.99	16.02.76	03.02.79	05.03.79
Lebanon	-	08.11.77/AC	*	*	-	08.11.77/AC	-	-	08.11.77/AC	12.02.78
Libya	31.01.77	31.01.79	12.01.09	11.02.09	31.01.77	31.01.79	-	31.01.77	31.01.79	02.03.79
Malta	16.02.76	30.12.77	28.10.99	09.07.04	16.02.76	30.12.77	28.10.99	16.02.76	30.12.77	12.02.78
Monaco	16.02.76	20.09.77	11.04.97	09.07.04	16.02.76	20.09.77	11.04.97	16.02.76	20.09.77	12.02.78
Montenegro	-	19.11.07	19.11.07	19.12.07	-	-	-	-	-	-
Morocco	16.02.76	15.01.80	07.12.04	06.01.05	16.02.76	15.01.80	05.12.97	16.02.76	15.01.80	15.02.80
Slovenia	-	16.09.93/AC	08.01.03	09.07.04	-	16.09.93/AC	08.01.03	-	16.09.93/AC	15.03.94
Spain	16.02.76	17.12.76	17.02.99	09.07.04	16.02.76	17.12.76	17.02.99	16.02.76	17.12.76	12.02.78
Syria	-	26.12.78/AC	10.10.03	09.07.04	-	26.12.78/AC	11.04.08	-	26.12.78/AC	25.01.79
Tunisia	25.05.76	30.07.77	01.06.98	09.07.04	25.05.76	30.07.77	01.06.98	25.05.76	30.07.77	12.02.78
Turkey	16.02.76	06.04.81	18.09.02	09.07.04	16.02.76	06.04.81	18.09.02	16.02.76	06.04.81	06.05.81

Accession = AC

Approval = AP

Succession = SUC

* pending notification from Depository Country

Contracting Parties	2002 Emergency Protocol			1980 Land-Based Sources Protocol				1982 Specially Protected Areas Protocol		
	Signature	Ratification	Entered into force	Signature	Ratification	Acceptance of 1996 Amendments	Entered into force	Signature	Ratification	Entered into force
Albania	-	-	-	-	30.05.90/AC	26.07.01	11.05.08	-	30.05.90/AC	29.06.90
Algeria	25.01.02	-	-	-	02.05.83/AC	-	-	-	16.05.85/AC	23.03.86
Bosnia and Herzegovina	-	-	-	-	22.10.94/SUC	-	-	-	22.10.94/SUC	01.03.92
Croatia	25.01.02	01.10.03	17.03.04	-	12.06.92/SUC	11.10.06	11.05.08	-	12.06.92/SUC	08.10.91
Cyprus	25.01.02	19.12.07	18.01.08	17.05.80	28.06.88	18.07.03	11.05.08	-	28.06.88/AC	28.07.88
Egypt	-	-	-	-	18.05.83/AC	-	-	16.02.83	08.07.83	23.03.86
European Union	25.01.02	26.05.04	25.06.04	17.05.80	07.10.83/AP	12.11.99	11.05.08	30.03.83	30.06.84/AP	23.03.86
France	25.01.02	02.07.03	17.03.04	17.05.80	13.07.82/AP	29.03.01	11.05.08	03.04.82	02.09.86/AP	02.10.86
Greece	25.01.02	27.11.06	27.12.06	17.05.80	26.01.87	10.03.03	11.05.08	03.04.82	26.01.87	25.02.87
Israel	22.01.03	10.09.14-	10.10.14-	17.05.80	21.02.91	19.06.09	19.07.09	03.04.82	28.10.87	27.11.87
Italy	25.01.02	-	-	17.05.80	04.07.85	07.09.99	11.05.08	03.04.82	04.07.85	23.03.86
Lebanon	-	-	-	17.05.80	27.12.94	-	-	-	27.12.94/AC	26.01.95
Libya	25.01.02	-	-	17.05.80	06.06.89/AP	-	-	-	06.06.89/AC	06.07.89
Malta	25.01.02	18.02.03	17.03.04	17.05.80	02.03.89	28.10.99	11.05.08	03.04.82	11.01.88	10.02.88
Monaco	25.01.02	03.04.02	17.03.04	17.05.80	12.01.83	26.11.96	11.05.08	03.04.82	29.05.89	28.06.89
Montenegro	-	19.11.07	19.12.07	-	19.11.07/AC	19.11.07	11.05.08	-	-	-
Morocco	25.01.02	26.04.11	26.05.11	17.05.80	09.02.87	02.10.96	11.05.08	02.04.83	22.06.90	22.07.90
Slovenia	25.01.02	16.02.04	17.03.04	-	16.09.93/AC	08.01.03	11.05.08	-	16.09.93/AC	15.03.94
Spain	25.01.02	10.07.07	09.08.07	17.05.80	06.06.84	17.02.99	11.05.08	03.04.82	22.12.87	21.01.88
Syria	25.01.02	11.04.08	11.05.08	-	01.12.93/AC	11.04.08	11.05.08	-	11.09.92/AC	11.10.92
Tunisia	25.01.02	-	-	17.05.80	29.10.81	01.06.98	11.05.08	03.04.82	26.05.83	23.03.86
Turkey	-	03.06.03	17.03.04	-	21.02.83/AC	18.09.02	11.05.08	-	06.11.86/AC	06.12.86

Accession = AC

Approval = AP

Succession = SUC

Contracting Parties	1995 SPA & Biodiversity Protocol				1994 Offshore Protocol		
	Signature	Ratification	Entered into force	Amendments to Annexes II & III Entered into force	Signature	Ratification	Entered into force
Albania	10.06.95	26.07.01	25.08.01	30.03.14	-	26.07.01	24.03.11
Algeria	10.06.95	14.03.07	13.04.07	30.03.14	-	-	-
Bosnia and Herzegovina	-	-	-		-	-	-
Croatia	10.06.95	12.04.02	12.05.02	30.03.14	14.10.94	-	-
Cyprus	10.06.95	18.07.03	17.08.03		14.10.94	16.05.06	24.03.11
Egypt	10.06.95	11.02.00	12.03.00	30.03.14	-	-	-
European Union	10.06.95	12.11.99	12.12.99	30.03.14	17.12.12/AC	29.03.13	29.03.13
France	10.06.95	16.04.01	16.05.01	30.03.14	-	-	-
Greece	10.06.95	-	-		14.10.94	-	-
Israel	10.06.95	-	-	30.03.14	14.10.94	-	-
Italy	10.06.95	07.09.99	12.12.99	30.03.14	14.10.94	-	-
Lebanon	-	22.04.09	22.05.09	30.03.14	-	-	-
Libya	-	-	-		-	16.06.05	24.03.11
Malta	10.06.95	28.10.99	12.12.99	30.03.14	14.10.94	-	-
Monaco	10.06.95	03.06.97	12.12.99	30.03.14	14.10.94	-	-
Montenegro	-	19.11.07	19.12.07	30.03.14	-	-	-
Morocco	10.06.95	24.04.09	25.05.09	30.03.14	-	01.07.99	24.03.11
Slovenia	-	08.01.03	07.02.03	30.03.14	10.10.95	-	-
Spain	10.06.95	23.12.98	12.12.99	30.03.14	14.10.94	-	-
Syria	-	10.10.03	09.11.03	30.03.14	20.09.95	22.02.11	24.03.11
Tunisia	10.06.95	01.06.98	12.12.99	30.03.14	14.10.94	01.06.98	24.03.11
Turkey	-	18.09.02	18.10.02	30.03.14	-	-	-

Contracting Parties	1996 Hazardous Wastes Protocol			2008 Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) Protocol		
	Signature	Ratification	Entered into force	Signature	Ratification	Entered into force
Albania	-	26.07.01	18.01.08		04.05.10/AD	24.03.11
Algeria	01.10.96	-	-	21.01.08	-	-
Bosnia and Herzegovina	-	-	-	-	-	-
Croatia	-	-	-	21.01.08	29.01.13/R (*)	28.02.13
Cyprus	-	-	-	-	-	-
Egypt	01.10.96	-	-	-	-	-
European Union	-	-	-	16.01.09	29.09.10/AP	24.03.11
France	-	-	-	21.01.08	29.10.09/AP	24.03.11
Greece	01.10.96	-	-	21.01.08	-	-
Israel	-	-	-	21.01.08	08.04.14/R (*)	-
Italy	01.10.96	-	-	21.01.08	-	-
Lebanon	-	-	-	-	-	-
Libya	01.10.96	-	-	-	-	-
Malta	01.10.96	28.10.99	18.01.08	21.01.08	-	-
Monaco	01.10.96	-	-	21.01.08	-	-
Montenegro	-	19.11.07	18.01.08	21.01.08	09.01.12	08.02.12
Morocco	20.03.97	01.07.99	18.01.08	21.01.08	21.09.12	21.10.12
Slovenia	-	-	-	21.01.08	01.12.09	24.03.11
Spain	01.10.96	-	-	21.01.08	22.06.10	24.03.11
Syria	-	22.02.11	24.03.11	21.01.08	22.02.11	24.03.11
Tunisia	01.10.96	01.06.98	18.01.08	21.01.08	-	-
Turkey	01.10.96	03.04.04	18.01.08	-	-	-

* Pending notification from Depository Country

Adhesion= AD

Approval = AP

Ratification = R

STATUS OF ENTRY INTO FORCE

Legal instruments	Place and date of Adoption	Entry into force date	Place and date of adoption of amendment	Entry into force of amendments
Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution, amended as Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean (Barcelona Convention)	16 February 1976, Barcelona	12 February 1978	—	—
	—	—	10 June 1995, Barcelona	9 July 2004
The Protocol for the Prevention of Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by Dumping from Ships and Aircraft (Dumping Protocol), amended as The Protocol for the Prevention of Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by Dumping from Ships and Aircraft or Incineration at Sea (Dumping Protocol)	16 February 1976, Barcelona	12 February 1978	—	—
	—	—	10 June 1995, Barcelona	Not yet in force
The Protocol concerning Co-operation in Combating Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by Oil and other Harmful Substances in Cases of Emergency (Emergency Protocol)	16 February 1976, Barcelona	12 February 1978	—	—
The Protocol concerning Co-operation in Preventing Pollution from Ships and, in Cases of Emergency, Combating Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea (Prevention and Emergency Protocol)*	25 January 2002, Malta	17 March 2004	—	—

* According to paragraph 2 of Article 25, this Protocol as from the date of its entry into force (17 March 2004) shall replace the Emergency Protocol (of 1976) in the relations between the Parties to both instruments.

Legal instruments	Place and date of Adoption	Entry into force date	Place and date of adoption of amendment, if any	Entry into force of amendments
The Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea Against Pollution from Land-based Sources, amended as The Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea Against Pollution from Land-based Sources and Activities (LBS Protocol)	17 May 1980, Athens	17 June 1983	—	—
	—	—	7 March 1996, Syracuse	11 May 2008
The Protocol Concerning Mediterranean Specially Protected Areas (SPA Protocol)	3 April 1982, Geneva		Not applicable	Not applicable
The Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean (SPA & Biodiversity Protocol)**	10 June 1995, Barcelona	12 December 1999	Not applicable	Not applicable
Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea Against Pollution Resulting from Exploration and Exploitation of the Continental Shelf and the Seabed and its Subsoil (Offshore Protocol)	14 October 1994, Madrid	24 March 2011	Not applicable	Not applicable
Protocol on the Prevention of Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal (Hazardous Wastes Protocol)	1 October 1996, Izmir	18 January 2008	Not applicable	Not applicable
Protocol on Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM Protocol)	21 January 2008, Madrid	24 March 2011	Not applicable	Not applicable

** According to paragraph 2 of Article 32, this Protocol as from the date of its entry into force (12 December 1999) shall replace the SPA Protocol (of 1982) in the relations between the Parties to both instruments.