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MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN

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19th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the
Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment
and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean and its Protocols

Athens, Greece, 9-12 February 2016

Agenda item 2: Organizational Matters

Provisional Annotated Agenda

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Provisional Annotated Agenda

Introduction

The 18th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean and its Protocols (Istanbul, Turkey, 3-6 December 2013) accepted the kind offer of the Government of Greece to host the 19th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties in Athens (Greece) from 9 to 12 February 2016.

The following annotations to the proposed agenda were prepared by the Secretariat to assist the meeting in its deliberations.

The opening session will be preceded, as per practice, by an informal meeting of the Heads of Delegation at 9.00 a.m.

Agenda item 1: Opening of the Meeting

The meeting will be held in Athens and will be opened at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, 9 February 2016.

Opening statements will be made by:

- a) Prof. Dr. Mehmet Emin Birpınar, the President elected by the 18th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties;
- b) The Executive Director of UNEP or his representative;
- c) The Minister of Environment and Energy of Greece or his representative;
- d) The UNEP/MAP Coordinator.

Agenda item 2: Organizational Matters

2.1 Rules of Procedure

The Rules of Procedure for Meetings and Conferences of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and Coastal Region of the Mediterranean and its Protocols will apply to this meeting.

2.2 Election of Officers

Subject to the Rules of Procedure, the meeting shall elect the members of the Bureau from among the representatives of the Contracting Parties, consisting of a President, four Vice-Presidents and a Rapporteur. It is recalled that "*the principle of equitable geographical distribution shall be observed*" (Article 19 of the Barcelona Convention).

2.3 Adoption of the Agenda

The Provisional Agenda prepared by the Secretariat in agreement with the Bureau of the Contracting Parties and finalized during the Meeting of MAP Focal Points (Athens, Greece, 13-16 October 2015) is contained in document UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.22/1.

Subject to the Rules of Procedure referred to in paragraph 2.1, the Meeting may wish to adopt the agenda and timetable appearing in the Annex to the present document, amended as appropriate.

2.4 Organization of Work

- a) It is proposed that the Meeting be held in daily sessions from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., subject to adjustments as necessary.
- b) It is expected that the Meeting address all items of the Agenda within the allotted sessions.
- c) It is proposed that no session will be held in the morning of the last day (12 February 2016), to be allocated for the preparation of the Meeting Report. The afternoon session will take place

from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. It is envisaged to close the Meeting at 6 p.m. after adopting its Report, including the Decisions.

- d) In accordance with Rule of Procedure 24, the Meeting shall establish such committees and other working groups as may be required for the transaction of its business. As per Decision IG21.21/13 (Annex II), “A Budget Contact Group should be set up during COPs in order to facilitate informed discussion among the Parties about its budget that can take account of draft decisions and the state of contributions and commitments in the ongoing biennium”. The Budget Contact Group will report to the Plenary. On the basis of the well-established practice, it may also consider to create an informal working group to prepare the Athens Declaration under the leadership of Greece as the Host Country of COP 19 for the consideration of the Plenary.
- e) The Meeting will feature a Ministerial Session on Thursday, 11 February 2016. The theme of the debate at the Ministerial segment is “Forty Years of Cooperation for Healthy and Productive Mediterranean Sea and Coast: A Collective Journey towards Sustainable Development”.
- f) The Meeting will be invited to adopt the draft text of the Athens Declaration during the Ministerial Session on Thursday, 11 February 2016.
- g) Simultaneous interpretation in Arabic, English, French and Spanish will be available in all plenary sessions throughout the meeting.
- h) Side events and exhibition(s) may be organized and held on the occasion of the Meeting, based on a programme to be distributed in due course.

2.5 Verification of Credentials

Rule 18 of the Rules of Procedure stipulates that each Contracting Party shall be represented by an accredited representative, who may be accompanied by such alternates and advisers as may be required.

Rule 19 stipulates that the credentials of the representatives and the names of the alternate representatives shall be submitted by the Contracting Parties before the opening session of the meeting which the representatives are to attend. It provides also that the Bureau shall examine the credentials of representatives and submit its report to the meeting.

Details for the submission of credentials in accordance with the above-mentioned Rules of Procedures have been provided to Contracting Parties with the invitation to the Meeting by the Executive Director of UNEP.

Agenda item 3: Thematic Decisions

UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG 22/4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 10/Corr.1, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 21, 22, 23; UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.22/Inf.4, 5, 6, 7, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 19, 20, 21, 22.

Under this agenda item the Meeting will review for possible adoption a number of draft decisions prepared and endorsed by the MAP Focal Points Meeting (October 2015, Athens, Greece), addressing specific issues related to implementation of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols and including strategic and programming documents.

The UNEP/MAP Coordinator will briefly introduce the draft decisions highlighting in particular the main points raised at the MAP FP Meeting (October 2015, Athens, Greece) and where appropriate explain related changes introduced to draft decisions following the request of the MAP FP Meeting.

The Chairperson of the Compliance Committee will introduce Draft Decision IG. 22/15 as well as the report of the Compliance Committee.

The Meeting may wish to consider and adopt the following draft decisions under this agenda item:

<i>Draft Decision Number</i>	Title of the Draft Decision	Working Document Number
<i>Draft Decision IG.22/2</i>	Mediterranean Strategy on Sustainable Development 2016-2025	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.22/5
<i>Draft Decision IG.22/3</i>	Mediterranean Offshore Action Plan in the Framework of the 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	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.22/6
<i>Draft Decision IG.22/4</i>	Regional Strategy for Prevention of and Response to Marine Pollution from Ships (2016-2021)	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.22/7
<i>Draft Decision IG.22/5</i>	Regional Action Plan on Sustainable Consumption and Production in the Mediterranean	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.22/8
<i>Draft Decision IG.22/6</i>	Regional Climate Change Adaptation Framework for the Mediterranean Marine and Coastal Areas	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.22/9
<i>Draft Decision IG.22/7</i>	Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme of the Mediterranean Sea and Coast and Related Assessment Criteria	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.22/10 UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.22/10/Corr.1
<i>Draft Decision IG.22/8</i>	Implementation of Updated National Action Plans (NAPs), Containing Measures and Timetables for their Implementation	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.22/11
<i>Draft Decision IG.22/9</i>	Guidelines on Best Environmental Practices (BEP) for the Environmental Sound Management (ESM) of Mercury Contaminated Sites	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.22/12
<i>Draft Decision IG.22/10</i>	Implementing the Marine Litter Regional Plan in the Mediterranean (Fishing for Litter Guidelines, Assessment Report, Baselines Values, and Reduction Targets)	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.22/13
<i>Draft Decision IG.22/11</i>	Mid-term Evaluation of the Action Plan for the Implementation of the ICZM Protocol for the Mediterranean (2012-2019)	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.22/14
<i>Draft Decision IG.22/12</i>	Updated Action Plans Concerning “Cetaceans”, “Coralligenous and Other Calcareous Bio-concretions”, and “Species Introductions and Invasive Species”; mandate for update of the “Action Plan on Marine and Coastal Birds” and revision of the “Reference List of Marine and Coastal Habitat Types in the Mediterranean”	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG 22/15
<i>Draft Decision IG.22/13</i>	Roadmap for a Comprehensive Coherent Network of Well-Managed MPAs	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.22/16
<i>Draft Decision IG.22/14</i>	List of Specially Protected Areas of Mediterranean Importance (SPAMI List)	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.22/17
<i>Draft Decision IG.22/15</i>	Compliance Committee: Activity Report 2014-2015, Programme of Work 2016-2017 and Renewal of Membership	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.22/18

<i>Draft Decision Number</i>	Title of the Draft Decision	Working Document Number
<i>Draft Decision IG.22/16</i>	Reporting and Operational Section of the Reporting Format for the Protocol on the Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) in the Mediterranean	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.22/19
<i>Draft Decision IG.22/17</i>	Reform of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD) and Updated MCSD Constituent Documents	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.22/20
<i>Draft Decision IG.22/18</i>	Cooperation and Partners	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.22/21
<i>Draft Decision IG.22/19</i>	Environment Friendly City Award	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.22/22
<i>No Decision has been drafted on this matter</i>	Implementation of Decision IG.21/16 "Assessment of the Mediterranean Action Plan"	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.22/23

Agenda item 4: Mid-Term Strategy 2016-2021 (UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.22/4)

The UNEP/MAP Coordinator will introduce the proposed Mid-Term Strategy 2016-2021, as revised following the conclusions of the MAP FP Meeting (October 2015, Athens, Greece).

The Meeting may wish to consider and adopt the relevant draft decision under this agenda item.

Agenda Item 5: Programme of Work and Budget 2016-2017 (UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.22/24, UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.22/24/Corr.1 and UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.22/Inf.21)

The UNEP/MAP Coordinator will present the proposed Programme of Work and Budget 2016-2017. This document was prepared in close collaboration with MAP components under the guidance of the Bureau of the Contracting Parties and on the basis of the proposed UNEP/MAP Mid-Term Strategy 2016-2021.

The Meeting may wish to consider and adopt the relevant draft decision under this agenda item, following the report of the Budget Contact Group mentioned under agenda item 2.4 (d) above.

Agenda item 6: Ministerial Session

6.1 Report on Activities Carried Out in the Framework of UNEP/MAP since COP 18 (UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.22/3 and UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.22/3/Corr.1; UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.22/27; UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG. 22/Inf.3-15)

The Meeting has before it document UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.22/3 Progress Report by the Secretariat and its Corrigendum 1, as well as UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.22/27, Statement of Account for the Financial Period 2012-2013, as per Procedure 5.2 of the Financial Rules and Procedures for the Funds of the Barcelona Convention.

The UNEP/MAP Coordinator will introduce both documents, highlighting the main achievements and challenges faced during the last biennium with regards to the implementation of programme of work.

The Meeting may wish to acknowledge and comment as necessary on the progress achieved on the implementation of the Programme of Work and Budget adopted by COP 18.

6.2. Interactive Ministerial Policy Review Session: Forty Years of Cooperation for Healthy and Productive Mediterranean Sea and Coast: A Collective Journey Towards Sustainable Development (UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.22/25)

To facilitate the discussion at the Ministerial session, the Meeting has before it document UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.22/25 "Forty Years of Cooperation for Healthy and Productive Mediterranean Sea and Coast: A Collective Journey Towards Sustainable Development " as Background Note for the Ministerial Discussions.

Statements will be made as follows:

- a) Welcoming address and introductory remarks by the Minister of Environment and Energy of Greece;
- b) Welcoming address by the Executive Director of UNEP or his Representative;
- c) Welcoming remarks by the UNEP/MAP Coordinator;
- d) Eminent figures will be invited to deliver key note speeches, following which the Ministers and Heads of Delegations may make their interventions, focusing on the theme of the session presented in the background document UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.22/25.

Additional information on the Ministerial Session will be provided at a later stage.

6.3 Athens Declaration (UNEP (DEPI)/MED IG 22/26)

The Meeting has before it document UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.22/26 "Draft Athens Declaration", which will be introduced by the representative of Greece as COP 19 Host Country, who has led the process of its preparation.

The Meeting will be invited to discuss and adopt the Athens Declaration as appropriate.

Agenda Item 7: Date and Place of the 20th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties (COP 20) (UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.22/Inf.17)

The Meeting will be invited to consider the dates and place of the 20th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to be convened in 2017.

The Meeting will also take note of the proposed Indicative Calendar of the Barcelona Convention main meetings (Bureau, MAP FP, MCSD) prepared by the Secretariat for information purposes and contained in document UNEP (DEPI) IG.22/Inf.17.

Agenda Item 8: Any Other Business

Under this agenda item, participants will be invited to discuss other matters that may require attention of the 19th meeting of the Contracting parties which were raised and agreed upon during the adoption of the provisional agenda.

Agenda Item 9: Adoption of the Report

At its final session, the Meeting will be invited to consider and adopt its Report including the Decisions as prepared by the Rapporteur.

Agenda Item 10: Closure of the Meeting

It is expected that the Meeting will be closed by the President at 6 p.m. on Friday, 12 February 2016.

TIMETABLE
9-12 February 2016

Tuesday, 9 February 2016			
Time	Agenda item		Working Documents
08:30-09:30	<i>Registration</i>		
10:00 – 10:30	1. Opening of the meeting 2. Adoption of the Provisional Agenda and Organization of Work	President of the Bureau ED UNEP Host Country Minister UNEP/MAP Coordinator	UNEP(DEPI)/MED.IG.22/1, 22/2
10:30 - 11:00	6.3 Athens Declaration	Host Country UNEP/MAP Coordinator	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.22/26
11:00 – 12:00	5 .Programme of Work and Budget 2016-2017	UNEP/MAP Coordinator	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.22/24 and Corr.1
12:00-13:00	4. Mid-Term Strategy 2016-2021	UNEP/MAP Coordinator	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.22/4
13:00-15:00	<i>Lunch Break and Side Events</i>		
15:00-18:00	3. Thematic Decisions: IG.22/2 (MSSD) IG.22/5 (SCP) IG.22/3 (Pollution from Ships) IG.22/4 (Offshore AP) IG.22/6 (RCCAF) IG.22/7 (IMAP) IG.22/8 (NAPs) IG.22/9 (Mercury) IG.22/10 (Marine Litter) IG.22/11 (ICZM AP) IG.22/12 (Species and Habitats) IG.22/13 (MPA Roadmap) IG.22/14 (SPAMI)	UNEP/MAP Coordinator	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.22/5; 22/6; 22/7; 22/ 8; 22/9; 22/10 and Corr.1; 22/11, 22/12; 22/13; 22/14; 22/15,22/16, 22/17;
Wednesday, 10 February 2016			
10:00 – 12:00	3. Thematic Decisions: IG.22/15 (Compliance) IG.22/16 (Reporting) IG.22/17 (MCSD Reform) IG.22/18 (Cooperation and Partners) IG.22/19 (Environment Friendly Cities) Implementing Decision IG.21/16	UNEP/MAP Coordinator	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.22/18; 22/19; 22/20; 22/21;22/22;22/23
12:00-13:00	6.3. Athens Declaration	Host Country UNEP/MAP Coordinator	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.22/26
13:00-15:00	<i>Lunch Break and Side Events</i>		

15:00 – 18:00	5. Programme of Work and Budget 2016-2017	Chair of the Budget Contact Group UNEP/MAP Coordinator	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.22/24 and Corr.1
Thursday, 11 February 2016 Ministerial Session			
10:00-11:00	6. Ministerial Session: Opening Speeches	Host Country Minister ED UNEP UNEP/MAP Coordinator	
11:00-11:30	6.1 Progress Report on Activities Carried Out during the 2014 - 2015 Biennium	UNEP/MAP Coordinator	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.22/3 and Corr.1
11:30 – 12:00	6.2 Interactive ministerial policy review session: Forty Years of Cooperation for Healthy and Productive Mediterranean Sea and Coast: A Collective Journey Towards Sustainable Development	Key Note Speaker(s)	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.22/25
11:30 – 13:00	6.2 Continued	Ministers/Heads of Delegation	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.22/25
13:00 – 15:30	<i>Lunch Break and Side Events</i>		
15:00 – 17:00	6.2 Continued	Ministers/Heads of Delegation	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.22/25
17:00 – 18:00	6.3 Athens Declaration	Ministers/Heads of Delegation	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.22/26
18:30	Reception hosted by the Government of Greece		
Friday, 12 February 2016			
15:00 – 15:15	7. Date and place of COP 20 8. Any other business	UNEP/MAP Coordinator	
15:15 – 17:30	9. Adoption of the Report	President of the Bureau Rapporteur	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.22/28
18:00	10. Closure of COP 19	President of the Bureau	