



**United Nations  
Environment  
Programme**

**EP**



UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.297/Inf.5  
25 July 2006

ENGLISH

---

---



**MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN**

Extraordinary Meeting of MAP Focal Points

Catania (Italy), 7-11 November 2006

**PROPOSED WORDING OF THE DECISIONS  
OF THE CONTRACTING PARTIES**



**Proposal on the rewording of the decisions of the Meetings of the Contracting Parties  
based on the Recommendations adopted by their 14<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Meeting  
(Portoroz, November 2005)**

***Decision 14.1 - Status of ratification of the Convention and the Protocols***

Considering the particular threat to the marine and coastal environment by dumping and land-based sources and activities:

[This preceding preambular section should be expanded to cover the key issues addressed by the Decision, which is not the case now.]

The Conference of the Parties,

1. Urges the Parties that have not yet done so to accept urgently the amendments to the:
  - a. Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution (the Barcelona Convention);
  - b. Protocol for the Prevention of Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by Dumping from Ships and Aircraft (the Dumping Protocol);
  - c. Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution from Land-Based Sources (the LBS Protocol).
2. Further urges the Parties that have not yet done so to ratify, accept, approve or accede as soon as possible to other Protocols, and in particular the Protocol concerning Cooperation in Preventing Pollution from Ships and, in Cases of Emergency, Combating Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea (the Prevention and Emergency Protocol) and the Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean (the SPA and Biodiversity Protocol), which are in force.
3. Requests the depositary country (Spain), together with the Bureau of the Contracting Parties, to take a more active role for the Parties to speed up the process of the acceptance of amendments and ratification.
4. Urges the Parties to ensure the implementation of the recommendations made by the 13<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties, held in Catania, in order to assist the Contracting Parties, especially the most vulnerable among them, to build their technical and logistical capacity within the framework of the Convention and, in particular, the Protocols on combating pollution, and to strengthen bilateral and multilateral cooperation.
5. Request the Secretariat to undertake the necessary actions to assist the Contracting Parties, at their request, in their efforts to accept the amendments to the revised instruments and/or ratify, accept, and adhere to the new MAP legal instruments.

**Decision 14.2 - Developments in the legal framework**

A short preambular section should be inserted, providing the background/reasons for the Decision.

The Conference of the Parties:

1. Affirms the urgent need to halt and reverse the continuing degradation of the Mediterranean coastal zone through a process of integrated management;
2. Takes note of the draft text of the Protocol on ICAM prepared by the Secretariat; and
3. Establishes a working group of experts designated by the Contracting Parties to develop a draft text of the Protocol on ICAM with a view to its consideration and possible approval by the 15th Meeting of the Contracting Parties in 2007 and to convene a diplomatic conference for its adoption to be held immediately following the 15<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Contracting Parties. International governmental organizations and non-governmental organizations, the activities of which are related to the Convention, will be invited to participate in the process as observers.

**Decision 14.3 - Liability and compensation**

Considering the legal complexity of implementing a liability and compensation mechanism; [Some additional considerations could be added providing the background/reasons for the Decision.]

The Conference of the Parties:

1. Establishes an open-ended working group of legal and technical experts to propose appropriate rules and procedures pursuant to Article 16 (*Liability and compensation for damage resulting from pollution of the marine environment*) of the amended Barcelona Convention. The working group should be composed of representatives of the Contracting Parties and one representative from MAP NGO Partners;
2. Takes note of document UNEP(DEC)/MED WG.270/Inf.4 as being of relevance to defining institutional responsibility and liability in a wide range of MAP activities; and
3. Request the Secretariat to invite all interested socio-economic actors and NGOs, including those which are members of the MCSD, to take part in the meetings of the working group at their own expense.

**Decision 14.4 - Reporting system**

**Decision 14.5 - Compliance mechanism under the Barcelona Convention**

**Decision 14.6 - Assistance to countries in legal matters**

**Decision 14.7 – Institutional framework**

**Decision 14.8 – The Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD)**

A short preambular section should be inserted, providing the background/reasons for the Decision.

The Conference of the Parties:

1. Adopts the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD) as finalized at the meeting of the MCSD held in Athens on xx June 2005, on the basis of the Declaration of the 14<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties;
  2. Urges the Parties, donors and partners to provide the necessary support for the implementation and follow-up of the MSSD at the regional, sub-regional and national levels;
  3. Further urges the Parties to integrate, as appropriate, the objectives, orientations and actions set out in the MSSD in National Strategies for Sustainable Development (NSSD) that are being prepared or have been prepared;
  4. Request the Parties and partners to identify specific commitments and projects as a contribution to the implementation of the MSSD;
  5. Encourages the Parties and partners to define and launch partnership initiatives for the implementation of the MSSD and strengthen existing Mediterranean Type II Initiatives;
  6. Further encourages the Parties to carry out information and communication campaigns on the MSSD and specific NSSDs;
  7. Requests the Parties to adopt the MCSD programme of work and to provide technical and financial support for the implementation of the MCSD's activities at the regional and national levels;
  8. Approves the following representatives of civil society as members of the MCSD, and
  9. Requests the Secretariat:
    - a) to monitor the implementation of the MSSD at the regional and national levels;
    - b) to define, launch and strengthen pilot actions as a contribution to the implementation of the MSSD;
    - c) to promote and, as appropriate, provide support for the preparation of NSSDs;
    - d) to encourage Contracting Parties and Partners to carry out and, as appropriate, provide support for information and communication campaigns on the MSSD and NSSDs;
    - e) to launch and coordinate the implementation of the programme of work and activities of the MCSD, in close coordination with other MAP activities; and
    - f) to issue information regularly, through the web and direct communications, on progress in the implementation of the MSSD and NSSDs, MCSD activities and Mediterranean Partnership Initiatives; to improve the visibility of the MCSD at the national, regional and international levels.
-

- Decision 14.9**            ***Energy Issues***
- Decision 14.10**        ***Cooperation with United Nations Agencies, IGOs, NGOs and other partners***
- Decision 14.11**        ***Cooperation with the European Union***
- Decision 14.12**        ***Cooperation with civil society and public participation***
- Decision 14.13**        ***Information, public awareness and public participation***
- Decision 14.14**        ***Financial issues and personnel matters***
- Decision 14.15**        ***Pollution from land-based sources***
- Decision 14.16**        ***Marine pollution prevention and control***
- Decision 14.17**        ***Cleaner production***
- Decision 14.18**        ***Implementation of the Action Plan for the Management of the Mediterranean Monk Seal***
- Decision 14.19**        ***Implementation of the Action Plan for the Conservation of Mediterranean Marine Turtles***
- Decision 14.20**        ***Implementation of the Action Plan for the Conservation of Cetaceans in the Mediterranean Sea***
- Decision 14.21**        ***Implementation of the Action Plan for the Conservation of Marine Vegetation in the Mediterranean Sea***
- Decision 14.22**        ***Implementation of the Action Plan for the Conservation of Cartilaginous Fishes (Chondrichthyans) in the Mediterranean Sea***
- Decision 14.24**        ***Implementation of the Action Plan concerning Species Introductions and Invasive Species in the Mediterranean Sea***
- Decision 14.25**        ***Selecting, establishing and managing specially protected areas***
- Decision 14.26**        ***Activities linked to processing and managing biodiversity-related data***
- Decision 14.27**        ***Strategic action programme for the conservation of biological diversity in the Mediterranean region (SAP BIO)***
- Decision 14.28**        ***Common criteria for the choice of species that could be included in or excluded from Annexes II and III to the SPA and Biodiversity Protocol***
- Decision 14.29**        ***Mediterranean initiative on taxonomy***
- Decision 14.30**        ***Capacity building in the field of the conservation of marine and coastal biodiversity***

- Decision 14.31      Coralligenous and other calcareous bio-concretions***
- Decision 14.32      Integrated Coastal Area Management (ICAM)***
- Decision 14.33      Integrating environment and development***
- Decision 14.34      Information and communication***