

Decision IG.22/8

**Implementation of Updated National Action Plans (NAPs),
Containing Measures and Timetables for their Implementation**

The 19th Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean, hereinafter referred to as the Barcelona Convention,

Recalling Article 5 of the LBS Protocol of the Barcelona Convention on elaboration and implementation of national and regional action plans and programmes containing measures and timetables for their implementation;

Acknowledging the progress achieved through the implementation of NAPs endorsed by the 15th Meeting of the Contracting Parties for the period 2003-2013, as concluded in the midterm evaluation of SAP/NAP implementation carried out by UNEP/MAP and Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) Secretariat;

Noting the renewed commitment to achieve the Ecosystem Approach-based Ecological Objectives set by the Contracting Parties of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols, as well as Clean Mediterranean by 2020 as stated in the Athens Declaration of the UfM Ministerial Meeting on Environment and Climate Change (2014);

Appreciating the work carried by the Contracting Parties to update the NAPs, and to produce coherent and financially sustainable policy documents integrating GES, Regional Plans commitments and SAP-MED targets;

Expressing appreciation to the UfM and the European Union for their political and financial support provided to the NAP update process in collaboration with UNEP/MAP Secretariat;

1. *Endorses* the NAPs 2016 – 2025 as unique policy documents comprising legally binding programmes of measures and timetables required to achieve GES and the Regional Plans/LBS Protocol objectives in the framework of SAP-MED.
2. *Urges* the Contracting Parties to implement NAPs, strengthen the coherence between NAP programmes of measures and other national policies, foster conditions for their long-term sustainability, and report on their implementation in the framework of Article 13 of the LBS Protocol;
3. *Urges* partners, international organisations in particular GEF and UfM and financial institutions to support implementation of NAPs through available mechanisms, facilities and programmes to contribute to the objective of achieving GES in the Mediterranean;
4. *Requests* the Secretariat (MED POL) to undertake in 2020 an indicator-based midterm evaluation of the NAPs implementation based on the existing reporting system and in close collaboration with the Contracting Parties for submission to COP 21.

