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Regional Meeting on the Further Implementation of the Regional Plan  
for the Management of Marine Litter in the Mediterranean

Tirana, Albania, 19-20 July 2016

**Agenda item 2: Adoption of the agenda and election of officers**

**Provisional Annotated Agenda**

**Co-organized with the IPA-Adriatic funded project entitled “Derelict Fishing Gear Management System in the Adriatic Region” (DeFishGear)**

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## Provisional Annotated Agenda

### Introduction

1. The objective of this regional meeting is to further the implementation of the Regional Plan for Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean (MLRP) adopted by COP 18, December 2013 in Istanbul, Turkey. The meeting is expected to be a forum in which participants share experiences, lessons learned and successes in combating Marine Litter; and give updates on the implementation of Marine Litter reduction and prevention measures.

2. This meeting will be held in Xheko Imperial Hotel, Rr Ibrahim Rugova 56H2, 1019, Tirana, Albania, on 19-20 July 2016. It is co-organised in collaboration between UNEP/MAP and the IPA-Adriatic funded project entitled “Derelict Fishing Gear Management System in the Adriatic Region” hereafter referred to as DeFishGear.

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

### Agenda item 1: Opening of the Meeting

4. The meeting will be opened at 09.30 on 19 July 2016 by the Coordinator of UNEP/MAP-Barcelona Convention Secretariat, the Coordinator of the DeFishGear project and the Representative of the host country, Albania.

### Agenda item 2: Adoption of the agenda and election of officers

*UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.424/1/Corr.1; UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.424/2;  
UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.424/Inf.1*

5. The Meeting will elect one (1) President, two (2) Vice-Presidents and one (1) Rapporteur from among the participants.

6. The proposed provisional agenda appearing in document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.424/1/Corr.1 and annotated in the present document will be proposed for adoption by the meeting. The meeting will review and adopt the agenda and the proposed timetable contained in the Annex to the present document, including as appropriate issues suggested to be addressed under the item “Any other business” of the provisional agenda.

7. Simultaneous interpretation in English and French will be available for the plenary sessions. Documentation will be in English and French. As per practice, pre-session documentation will not be distributed on paper. Participants are encouraged to download the documentation on their computers in advance of the session.

8. Sessions are scheduled every day from 09:30-12:30 and 14:30-17:30.

### Agenda item 3: Implementation of the Regional Plan for Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean

*UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.424/Inf.3; UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.424/Inf.4;  
UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.424/Inf.5*

- a) *New UNEP/MAP Marine Litter MED Project funded by the EU*
- b) *Fishing for Litter Guidelines adopted by COP 19 of the Barcelona Convention*

9. Under this agenda item UNEP/MAP-MEDOL Secretariat will present the objectives and main activities of new EU funded Marine Litter Project and the Fishing for Litter Guidelines adopted by COP 19, Athens 2016. (Decision IG 22/10 of COP 19 of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols).

- c) *The DeFishGear project: a pilot project for coordinated and harmonized actions on the science-policy-society interface to tackle Marine Litter issues in the Adriatic Sea*

10. Under this agenda item the Coordinator of the DeFishGear project will introduce the DeFishGear project, including its background, aim, objectives, and main lines of action and achieved results.

11. Expected Output: Participants will embark on a discussion on ways and means to fully and actively partake in new EU funded Marine Litter project as an important input to support Marine Litter measures of the updated National Action Plans. They are also expected to highlight their needs for implementing the fishing for litter guidelines and benefit from the experiences and outcomes of the DeFishGear project.

**Agenda items 4: Enhanced knowledge on amounts, sources and impacts of Marine Litter, including micro-plastics**

*UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.424/Inf.6; UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.424/Inf.7*

- a) *Highlights and emerging issues*

12. Under this agenda item the Secretariat will make a presentation on Marine Litter in the Mediterranean, with a focus on current and new issues identified in the recent 2015 UNEP/MAP Marine Litter Assessment Report as well as on Decision IG 22/10 on Implementing the Marine Litter Regional Plan in the Mediterranean (Fishing for Litter Guidelines, Assessment Report, Baselines Values, and Reduction Targets).

- b) *New data and findings, including a Mediterranean survey on abandoned, lost and derelict fishing gear and the DeFishGear socio-economic implications study of Marine Litter in the Adriatic Sea*

13. Under this agenda item, the DeFishGear Team will present a summary of the new data and findings obtained from the monitoring activities of the DeFishGear project, on macro-litter and micro-litter respectively as well as on the methodological approach and the main outcomes of the DeFishGear socio-economic implications study on Marine Litter in the Adriatic. Moreover the Secretariat with support from MIO ECSD, will present the main results of the Regional Survey on Abandoned, Lost or Discarded Fishing Gear (ALDFG) and Ghost Nets in the Mediterranean.

14. Expected Output: Participants will embark on a discussion related to the main findings of Marine Litter in the Mediterranean, including ALDFG, micro-plastics, impacts on biota and socio-economic implications. They will make suggestions on how to use the information provided in the reports and presentations for defining baselines or for prioritizing/tailoring their measures for implementation identified in the MLRP and the updated NAPs.

**Agenda item 5: Best practices to tackle land-based sources of Marine Litter**

*UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.424/3*

- a) *Extended producer responsibility schemes, voluntary agreements, plastic bag levy, deposit/refund schemes for beverage packaging.*

15. Under this agenda item the SCP/RAC will make a presentation on best practices related to voluntary agreements and deposit/refund schemes for beverage packaging. Presentations are envisaged from the Ministry of Ecology of France on the banning of single use of plastic bags and the Marine Unit of the Ministry of Environment of Ireland (to be confirmed) on the Irish plastic bag levy best practice, including its background, key steps, main challenges and successes.

*b) Banning of plastics landfilling*

16. The representative of Plastic Europe will make a presentation on the ban of plastic material landfilling, cost benefits and challenges for the implementation of related measures.

*c) Adopt-a-beach*

17. The representative of the Marine Conservation Society (to be confirmed) will make a presentation on the Adopt-a-beach measure the added value, benefits and best practices of this measure at European level.

18. Expected Output: Participants will acquire an in-depth understanding of the different measures and practices presented and be invited to share similar practices based on their experiences. They will discuss on how countries can further implement the above best practices and reduce and/prevent Marine Litter inputs from land-based sources taking into account the need to partner with all relevant stakeholders including the civil society.

**Agenda item 6: Best practices to tackle sea-based sources of Marine Litter**  
*UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.424/3*

*a) Fishing for litter: setting up DeFishGear management schemes, targeted recovery of ghost nets*

19. Under this agenda item the DeFishGear Team will present the aforementioned measures including their main features and implementing modalities, the target groups and added value and will showcase their local/national implementation experiences, including the collective results and impact of these measures, the challenges encountered and the lessons learned.

*b) Better management of sea-based litter in ports*

20. Under this agenda item an overview of the different fee systems for ship-generated waste will be reviewed, including their advantages and respective shortcomings. Furthermore, the applicability, added value, requirements of the no-special-fee system in the Mediterranean will be explored and discussed. The representative of the Ministry of Environment of Spain will make a presentation on their experience related to the fixed fee in ports for MARPOL Annex V wastes as an incentive measure to promote Marine Litter management in ports.

21. Expected Output: Participants will acquire an in-depth understanding of the different measures and practices presented and will embark on a discussion related to how these measures and practices can be operationalized within their national management systems.

**Agenda item 7: Hands-on exercise on Marine Litter management**  
*UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.424/3*

*a) Hands-on exercise*

22. Under this agenda item the DeFishGear Team will facilitate a brainstorming exercise on identifying measures for the reduction of selected litter items. Participants will carry out group work and will report back in plenary. They will list the identified measures, prioritize them in terms of feasibility and summarize the key steps of implementing the most feasible one.

*b) Roundtable discussion and conclusions*

23. Under this agenda item the Chairperson with support from the Secretariat will moderate a discussion on concrete actions to be taken at national level and the regional support needed to implement the measures addressed during the meeting.

24. Expected Output: Participants will engage in a discussion and agree on a number of general conclusions on follow up to Marine Litter measures.

**Agenda item 8: Any Other Business**

25. Under this agenda item, the meeting will be invited to raise and discuss other matters that may require attention, as agreed during the adoption of the provisional agenda.

**Agenda item 9: Closure of the Meeting**

26. The Chairperson is expected to close the meeting at 17:30 on Wednesday, 20 July 2016.

**TIMETABLE**

<b>1<sup>st</sup> Day, Tuesday, 19 July 2016</b>		
<b>Time</b>	<b>Agenda item</b>	<b>Documents</b>
09:30 – 10:00	1. Opening of the Meeting 2. Adoption of the agenda and election of the officers	UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.424/1/Corr.1 UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.424/2 UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.424/Inf.1 UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.424/Inf.2
10:00 – 11:30	3. Implementation of the Regional Plan for Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean	UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.424/Inf.3 UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.424/Inf.4 UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.424/Inf.5
11:30 – 12:30	4. Enhanced knowledge on amounts, sources and impacts of Marine Litter, including micro plastics	UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.424/Inf.6 UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.424/Inf.7
12:30 – 14:30	<i>Lunch Break</i>	
14:30 – 17:30	5. Best practices to tackle land-based sources of Marine Litter	UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG 424/3
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Day, Wednesday, 20 July 2016</b>		
09:30 – 12:30	6. Best practices to tackle sea-based sources of Marine Litter	UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.424/3
12:30 – 14:30	<i>Lunch Break</i>	
14:30 – 17:15	7. A) Hands on exercise on Marine Litter management measures B) Round Table	
17:15 – 17:25	8. Any Other Business	
17:25 – 17:30	9. Closure of the Meeting	