



**United Nations  
Environment  
Programme**

**EP**



UNEP(OCA)/MED IG.11/3  
14 October 1997

Original: ENGLISH

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**MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN**

Tenth Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting  
Parties to the Convention for the Protection  
of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution  
and its Protocols

Tunis, 18 - 21 November 1997

**PROGRESS REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON  
THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MEDITERRANEAN  
ACTION PLAN IN 1996/1997**

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## INTRODUCTION

The present report covers the progress achieved and problems encountered in the implementation of the various activities carried out by the Coordinating Unit and its Regional Activity Centres (RAC's) and MAP programmes, since the last meeting of the Contracting Parties (Montpellier, 1-4 July 1996).

### A INSTITUTIONAL AND FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

#### (a) Financial arrangements

1. The unpaid pledges for 1996 as of 31 December 1996 has reached US\$ 387,720 and the total unpaid pledges for prior years has reached US\$ 961,380. The total collections during 1996 for 1996 and future years has reached US\$ 4,952,851, which was a good sign of improvement in the status of the MTF.
2. Unpaid pledges for 1997 and prior years as of 31 August 1997 have reached \$1,314,388. Therefore, it is expected that the Meeting will send an urgent message to the Contracting Parties urging them to speed up the process of payments of their contributions.
3. An important development related to the issue raised by the representative of EU during the last meeting of MAP National Focal Points concerning the 13% programme support cost applied to the EU voluntary contribution was occurred in July 1997, when UNEP HQ, accepted to waive the 13% programme support cost on expenditures against the EU voluntary contribution income. The released funds (estimated around US\$63,000), will be transferred to various activities.
4. In response to the efforts of the Bureau of the Contracting Parties and the Secretariat, Libya has paid lately a good part of its arrears to the Mediterranean Trust Fund (US\$295,405).
5. Funds approved by the Ninth Ordinary Meeting to cover the 1996 activities of MEDU, MEDPOL and RACs was US\$ 2,564,000 (MEDU \$ 550,000 - MEDPOL \$ 933,000 - BP \$ 244,000 - PAP \$ 415,000 - SPA \$ 233,000 and REMPEC \$ 199,000). The total expenditures for the same year were US\$ 1,924,928 (MEDU \$ 454,000 - MEDPOL \$ 585,000 - BP \$ 191,000 - PAP \$ 372,000 and REMPEC \$ 150,000).
6. The status of contributions to the MTF as of 31 August 1997 is contained in Annex I of this report.

#### (b) Institutional arrangements

##### Establishment of a Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD)

1. The post-Rio era was an important period in the history of the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) during which the Governments of the Mediterranean region and the European Community started the process of translating and adapting UNCED principles to the Mediterranean context through the preparation of Agenda MED 21, reorientation of MAP, the Barcelona Convention and its protocols and the creation of a Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD).

2. The MCSD was officially established within the framework of MAP in 1995 by the decision of the Ninth Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties (Barcelona, 5-8 June 1995)<sup>1</sup>, with the following mandate:
  - S to identify, evaluate and assess major economic, ecological and social problems set out in Agenda MED 21, make appropriate proposals thereon to the meetings of the Contracting Parties, evaluate the effectiveness of the follow-up to the decisions of the Contracting Parties and facilitate the exchange of information among institutions implementing activities related to sustainable development in the Mediterranean;
  - S to enhance regional cooperation and rationalize the inter-governmental decision-making capacity in the Mediterranean basin for the integration of environment and development issues.
3. At their Extraordinary Meeting (Montpellier, 1-4 July 1996), the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention adopted the Terms of Reference and the composition of the Commission.<sup>2</sup> According to the Terms of Reference, the Commission is composed of 36 members, consisting of high level representatives from each of the Contracting Parties (21), representatives of local authorities, socio-economic actors and non-governmental organizations (15), working in the fields of environment and sustainable development. Strongly believing that the role of the local authorities, socio-economic actors and NGOs is very important during this new era of MAP, the meeting of the Contracting Parties approved a new dimension in MAP relations with these three groups by accepting that they shall participate in the work of the Commission as fully fledged members on an equal footing as the case with the Contracting Parties.
4. Since its establishment, the Commission convened two meetings in Rabat (16-18 December 1996), and in Palma de Majorca (6-8 May 1997). The third meeting will be convened in Sophia-Antipolis on 28-30 October 1997.

#### Personnel of MAP

1. In conformity with the decision of the last meeting of the Contracting Parties, concerning the structure of MAP, the Secretariat has started the process of completing the personnel component, in consultation with UNEP Headquarters. All efforts with UNEP and for the delayed classification of the two vacant posts, namely the Deputy Coordinator and the MED POL Coordinator, finally produced results. The official announcements of the two posts were advertised on 20 June 1997 and sent to all MAP focal points for their attention and distribution. The deadline for submission of applications was fixed as 31 July 1997, which was subsequently extended to 15 August 1997.
2. With regard to the Fund/Administrative Management vacant post, an official panel composed of representatives of UNEP and MAP met in Athens in March 1997, reviewed the papers of all candidates and made a recommendation to the

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<sup>1</sup> UNEP(OCA)/MED IG.5/16

<sup>2</sup> UNEP(OCA)/MED IG.8/7

Coordinator. Mr. Francois Tissot (Nationality of France) was selected to fill this post and he assumed his work effective June 1997.

#### Review of MAP structure

3. The meeting of the Ad-Hoc Group on MAP structure, established by a decision of the last meeting of the Contracting Parties, was convened in Athens, on 26-27 March 1997, with representatives from Croatia, Egypt, EU, France, Greece, Italy, Malta, Monaco and Morocco. The objective was to examine the best possible structure for MEDU, MED POL and RACs, in the light of the revision of the Convention and its protocols, and to make recommendations to the meeting of the Contracting Parties, through the Bureau and through the meeting of the National Focal Points.
4. A thorough discussion took place during this meeting during which various problems and issues were identified and a set of recommendations were approved by the Group. However, due to the time limitation, the discussion relevant to some issues, such as the classification of RACs, was not completed. Therefore a suggestion was raised to the effect that the Coordinator is to explore the possibility of convening a second meeting of the Group, at the same time as the meeting of the MAP National Focal Points (Athens, 7-9 July 1997).
5. During the last meeting of MAP National Focal Points (Athens, 7 - 9 July 1997), the issue was reviewed again and various comments and amendments were made and incorporated in the text containing the recommendations of the Ad-Hoc Group. At the end of the discussion, the meeting recommended the adoption by the Tenth Ordinary Meeting of these recommendations which are contained in document UNEP (OCA)/MED/IG.11/4.

#### Environmental Impact Evaluation of MAP

1. UNEP has participated in the development of MAP and its implementation through several projects which were executed internally or by cooperating agencies and supporting organization. Nonetheless the role of UNEP has been catalytic. Riparian countries have contributed directly or through the Mediterranean Sea Trust Fund and collaborating agencies and supporting organizations contributed in cash and kind through joint projects.
2. In order to assess the effects of these projects on the environment and the sustainability of the results, an Environmental Impact Evaluation is being undertaken by UNEP for the Mediterranean Project (MAP). The objective of the evaluation is to show the impact of the project on the physical environment and socio-economic conditions of the Mediterranean region. For this purpose, UNEP consultants have visited the seat of the Coordinating Unit in Athens, several Mediterranean countries, MAP Regional Activity Centres (RACs) and a number of non-governmental organizations active in the Mediterranean region.
3. The results of the evaluation will be presented to the Contracting Parties for their attention.

#### Calendar of Meetings

1. The calendar of meetings organised within the framework of MAP during 1997 is contained in Annex II of this report.

#### Cooperation with the Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs)

1. Due to their important role, the status of the NGOs within MAP has been strengthened, mainly through their participation in MAP meetings and their representation on an equal footing in the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD).
2. MAP/NGO cooperation has also been institutionalised by the list of MAP/NGO partners which was approved by the Ninth Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties (Barcelona, 5-8 June 1995).

3. In this context, the following NGOs have officially requested to be included in this form of cooperation:

- **ATU-MED (Association Tunisie Méditerranée pour le Développement durable), Tunisia**  
**President: Mr. Mohamed Fakhfakh**
- **AREA-ED (Association de Réflexion d'Echange et d'Action pour l'Environnement et le Développement), Algeria**  
**President: Mr. Mounir Bencharif**
- **CRETES, Belgium**  
**Directeur: Mr. Parick Arnal**
- **EcoPeace, Israel**  
**Secretary General: Mr. Gidon Bromberg**
- **EIPA (Hellenic Institute of Environment, Desalination, Water re-use and Preservation), Greece**  
**President: Mr. Nick E. Bafitis**
- **ASMAPE (Association marocaine pour la Protection de l'Environnement), Morocco**  
**President: Mr. Bennis Abdelhadi**
- **EOAEN (Chambers Group for the Development of Greek Isles), Greece**  
**President: Mr. H. Mihalakis**
- **IEF (International Energy Foundation), Libya**  
**President: Mr. M. A. Muntasser**
- **MED FORUM (Forum of the Mediterranean for the Environment and Sustainable Development), Spain**  
**President: Mr. Zohir Sekkal**

- **OPSAT (Observatory for Planning the Sustainable Development and the Organization of the Territory, University of Salerno), Italy**  
**Scientific Coordinator: Mr. Francesco Citarella**
  - **AEM (Algerian Ecological Movement), Algeria**  
**President: Mr. Zohir Sekkal**
  - **AMPN (Association Monegasque pour la Protection de la Nature), Monaco**  
**President d'Honneur: S.A.S. le Prince Rainier III de Monaco**  
**President: Mr. Eugene de Bernardi.**
4. During its last meeting (Palma de Majorca, 9 May 1997), the Bureau of the Contracting Parties reviewed MAP/NGO cooperation, took note of the Secretariat proposal concerning the new NGOs requested to be included in the MAP list and decided to take a decision at its next meeting. Moreover, the Bureau requested the Secretariat to undertake a review of the status of the sixty two (62) NGOs already listed in the MAP list, for the Bureau's consideration at its next meeting scheduled for 31 October 1997 in Sophia Antipolis, France.

The decisions of the Bureau meeting in France will be communicated by the Secretariat to the present meeting.

#### Reporting System

1. As decided by the Extraordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties (Montpellier, 1-4 July 1996), the Secretariat has already started the process of developing a system of coherent reporting by the Contracting Parties in conformity with MAP Phase II and the relevant provisions of the Barcelona Convention and its protocols. A consultant (Mr. E. Scicluna-Malta) was recruited to prepare the first draft of the reporting system.
2. It is envisaged that the Secretariat would be requested by the present meeting to finalize a first draft on reporting system in consultation with the Contracting Parties and with the assistance of two or three experts and authorize its Bureau to review the revised draft concerning the reporting system on the basis of the various comments made during the debate on this subject and take the necessary decision.

## **B. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN THE MEDITERRANEAN**

### **(i) Integrating environment and development**

#### **(a) Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD)**

A separate progress report has been prepared by the Coordinator for the present meeting covering the activities of the Commission since its inception. See document UNEP(OCA)/MED IG.11/8.

**(b) Observation and systemic and prospective analysis of environment and development in the Mediterranean**

**Regional Activity Centre for Blue Plan (BP/RAC)**

Institutional

1. BP/RAC prepared and held its annual Advisory Board meeting which took place in Paris, at the Ministry of Environment, on March 14th, 1997.

Systemic and prospective analysis

2. A major international seminar on « Territorial prospective and the role of actors » was prepared and held in Sophia Antipolis, from 7 to 9 November 1996. It was attended by 32 experts from 14 countries, and a synthetic and proceedings report was published.
3. Applied to the region of Sfax, within the framework of the Sfax CAMP, the development of systemic and prospective tools made an extensive use of GIS and Remote Sensing technologies and proved to be helpful in land use management and planning. The results of this case study has been published.
4. In close co-operation with Blue Plan experts assisted by a student, a team of two international consultants from Greece and Tunisia are preparing a detailed programme of activities over three years for the « urban and rural development in the Mediterranean coastal regions ». Such a programme will of course be based on a relevant position paper. A preparatory working session was organised in Tunis on February 22, 1997 and a follow-up working session, to which the related MCSD Task Manager was invited, was held on 3-4 July 1997 in BP premises ((whose subject was also selected by the MCSD).
5. In order to push ahead the study on « Mediterranean Agro-systems and impacts on Environment », an international seminar on « Agriculture and Sustainable Development in the Mediterranean » was organised in Montpellier jointly with CIHEAM and ADEME from 10 to 12 March 1997. The study is going on satisfactorily mainly thanks to a local expert seconded to the Blue Plan by the French Government who is assisted by two part-time « low-cost » local consultants. The output is expected for November 1997.
6. Upon request from and in close co-operation with the Algerian Authorities, an international seminar on « Evaluation stratégique et prospective : de l'aide à la décision à l'action » was organised in Algiers on April 28 and 29, 1997. Proceedings will be published in November 1997 as a joint effort with the Institut National d'Etudes de Stratégie Globale, in Arabic, French and English.
7. Considering the high demand for Blue Plan fascicles, even though they are unfortunately only in French, the French Ministry of Environment has bought and offered to Blue Plan about one thousand copies so as to



assure a large distribution. Moreover, some have already run out and the one on « Mediterranean ecosystems » has been reviewed and updated and reprinted in September 1997. A new fascicle on « Natural hazards and environment » is under preparation. Both are expected for the next Contracting Parties meeting.

8. Preparatory activities (framework, programme, components, consultants) are going on for the elaboration of a « Blue Plan 2000 » to be published within three years, which will be a kind of updated version of the former « Blue Plan » major book, and will build on all activities carried out with special focus on coastal regions.

#### Mediterranean Environment and Development Observatory (MEDO) :

##### Co-operation with EC

9. Within the framework of MEDO, the European Commission (Life/DG XI) has accepted BP's request for financial support (ECU 774.000) over three years for a project on Mediterranean Sustainable Development Indicators (with related activities such as data, thematic and institutional studies).
10. In co-operation with other partners, Blue Plan has won an EC/DG XII call for bids on « PoAgwat Project » (use of water in agriculture) for which Blue Plan will get about ECU 80.000 over 36 months.
11. In co-operation with EC/IPTS (Seville) and with marginal financial support, a database on water has been prepared.

##### Co-operation with METAP

12. Closely associated with METAP III preparatory activities and Partners meetings, Blue Plan was asked to conduct the PPM regional programme (Project Performance Monitoring) with financial support from METAP.
13. A substantial part of this PPM programme will consist of the elaboration of Environmental Performance Indicators at three levels. A major international workshop will be organised in Beirut, from 15-17 December 1997 where national and subject performance milestones and indicators will be discussed and those of projects will be prepared.

##### National Observatories

14. Upon request from the Tunisian Authorities, a joint Blue Plan/IFEN mission was organised in October 1996 to assist the national Observatory-OTED to identify a set of national sustainable development indicators in relation to priority subjects to be considered in the next State of the Environment report. A relevant report was prepared and submitted to Tunisia.
15. For internal reasons at the Ministry of Environment of Turkey the effective launching of the Turkish Observatory - TEDO was delayed. Related activities are expected to resume in October 1997.

16. Albania : the identification and preparatory process for the Albanian Observatory was stopped temporarily.
17. Lebanon and Syria : identification and preparatory process was recently launched in both countries where respective Environment Ministers and international organisations (UNDP and EC) have expressed great interest. Key national partners will take part in the preparatory process and a feasibility study with a project document for fund raising will be launched soon.

#### Institutional studies / Country profiles

18. Draft report on France Country Profile is under review. Finalization is expected by November 1997.
19. A draft report for an Algerian Country Profile was prepared in April 1996 by a national consultant. Its finalization is expected by November 1997.
20. Preparation of Country Profile reports for Lebanon and Syria were launched in April 1997. Draft reports, being prepared by respective national consultants, are expected during the last quarter of 1997.

#### Statistics and Indicators

21. Based on the extensive research initiated through the EC/Eurostat/Medstat programme, to which the Blue Plan was closely associated (as a technical partner for the environment statistics), and the expectations created, an important regional project was launched on « environmental statistics and indicators » for which 5 national Mediterranean teams were identified and contracted for a two month period to work jointly with respective Ministries of Environment and Statistical Administrations. It concerns, inter alia, institutional responsibilities, identification and collection of environmental statistics, and a research activity with a set of 33 indicators. Substantive drafts were submitted. Final reports are expected for October 1997.
22. Based on an analytical report on soil and land cover/forest, related indicators were identified for the Mediterranean region. The overall draft report will be reviewed by selected experts from southern countries before finalization.
23. In order to « frame » properly the indicators and related statistical activities, several international experts, together with MCSD/SDI Task Managers, met in BP premises in Sophia Antipolis on 10-11 July 1997.
24. An in-depth research on industrial information and data was conducted by a senior expert during the period January-March 1997. The draft report is under review.

#### Specific studies

25. Considering its accumulated knowledge and expertise on water, the Blue Plan was asked to prepare a consistent report for the Euro-Mediterranean

Conference on Water which was held in Marseilles in November 96. The report on « Water in the Mediterranean Region » in both French and English was highly appreciated, with a very large dissemination (with an important request from EC). Consequently, the Blue Plan would be asked soon to prepare a similar document for the next Helsinki Euro-Mediterranean Conference on Environment.

26. As requested by the CP a feasibility " design " study for the preparation of a " Report on the Mediterranean State of Environment and Development " is being prepared. A draft is under review and proposed structure will be distributed to participants at the next CP meeting in Tunis.

#### Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development

27. Upon request from MED Unit, the Deputy Director of Blue Plan was asked to assist in the preparation of the MCSD Rabat meeting as technical secretary. He devoted about one fifth of his time to this task. A visit to UN-CSD staff has provided the basis for the preparation of MCSD working methods.
28. Blue Plan contributed intensively to the preparation of the preliminary report submitted to MCSD members at their first meeting in Rabat, December 1996.
29. As a direct support centre for four of the selected priority subjects to be studied in the short and medium terms (Management of water demand, Sustainable Development Indicators, Sustainable Tourism and Management of Urban/Rural Development), Blue Plan has provided the respective Task Managers with preliminary analytical reports.
30. As « Water Demand » is a short term activity, a more consistent report was prepared, in close co-operation with the Tunisian Task Manager, M. Ennabli and the expertise of M.J. Margat. Together with an analytical report prepared by Ms. D. Vallée, from BP/RAC, these reports were the major inputs to the related international workshop organized in Fréjus, France, on 12-13 September 1997, with the financial support of French PACA Region and CEDARE. Outputs from this workshop will be submitted to MCSD Meeting.

#### Miscellaneous

31. Blue Plan staff have participated in several workshops and seminars around the Mediterranean and in Europe on subjects related to MAP activities in general and Blue Plan activities in particular. As much as possible, priority was given to the meetings in which travelling costs were paid by the organisers.
32. In January 1997, Blue Plan moved to new and larger premises, still in Sophia Antipolis and close to its previous premises, offered (for at least 10 years) by the Alpes-Maritimes Department with financial support from Provence Alpes-Côte d'Azur Region.

### **(c) Coastal planning and management**

## **Regional Activity Centre for Priority Actions Programme (PAP/RAC)**

### **General PAP activities**

1. PAP/RAC organized, together with MEDCOAST Ankara, the International Workshop on Mediterranean and Black Sea Integrated Coastal Management. In the first half of the Workshop, presentations of the ICZM country review reports were programmed in two parallel sessions. In the second half of the Workshop the participants discussed the state-of-the-art of ICZM in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea. The Workshop participants identified difficulties and limitations existing in ICZM today, gave recommendations addressing these difficulties and limitations, described opportunities for the Mediterranean and Black Sea interaction, and identified roles and contributions of international collaboration networks in ICZM in the future.
2. PAP/RAC participated at the First Meeting of the Mediterranean Commission for Sustainable Development (MCSD) in Rabat, December 1996. PAP/RAC received new tasks in the meeting, particularly to provide professional support to various working groups that the MCSD has established to tackle the priority problems. PAP/RAC has taken the primary responsibility to support the Working group on coastal zone management, and, together with BP, on water resources. PAP has also been entrusted, together with BP, with the problems of tourism and urban development, which are considered medium-term priorities.
3. At the meeting of the working group for coastal zone management it was agreed that PAP prepare the terms of reference for the expert and prepare an overview of the relevant problems in the Mediterranean. According to conclusions of the Working group for sustainable development of coastal zones, PAP/RAC prepared: (a) terms of reference for the Working group, (b) terms of reference for an expert on the existing ICAM policies and strategies in the Mediterranean. Task leaders have chosen the expert, PAP/RAC has signed the relevant contract and the synthesis report is being prepared.
4. PAP/RAC has been engaged by the METAP Programme of the World Bank to make an assessment of coastal zone management activities in the Mediterranean, with the purpose of identifying successes and failures in hitherto activities in order to repeat the former and avoid the latter in future regional initiatives. A group of renown experts has been chosen to carry out the evaluation, and a certain number of case studies have been selected for in-depth analysis. The conclusive meeting took place in France in October 1996. The final draft report on assessment of coastal zone management initiatives in the Mediterranean has been prepared. The document received favourable comments from the World Bank experts and is being prepared for distribution to MAP and METAP country members. Recommendations given in the document will be presented at the MCSD meeting in Sofia Antipolis (October 1997) and at the Contracting Parties meeting in Tunis (November 1997).
5. Workshop on Carrying Capacity Assessment for Tourism in Mediterranean Coastal Areas was held in January 1997 in Split. The Workshop participants evaluated the draft Guidelines for Carrying

Capacity Assessment for Tourism in Mediterranean Coastal Areas. Participants also discussed the basic elements of the existing CCA studies (Brijuni archipelago, Vis, central-eastern part of the island of Rhodes), and those being prepared now (Lalzi Bay, and the area of Marsa Matrouh - Fuka). The follow-up of PAP/RAC activities of the action Development of Mediterranean Tourism Harmonized with the Environment was recommended. The document "Directives pour l'évaluation de la capacité d'accueil en matière de tourisme dans les régions littorales méditerranéennes" is being translated from English and edited.

6. A number of PAP/RAC Guidelines were translated into French (ICAM guidelines, CCA guidelines, Soil erosion cartography guidelines, Aquaculture guidelines) and a number of PAP Guidelines are being translated into French (Erosion measurement guidelines, Historic settlements rehabilitation and reconstruction guidelines). This will allow for a wider dissemination of the results of PAP/RAC activities.
7. PAP/RAC Deputy Director took a mission to Rome (3-5 June 1997) in order to make Italian Focal Point for PAP acquainted with actions, outputs and plan of PAP/RAC. He also paid visit to the Italian Focal Point for PAP in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and to the permanent member of the Italian Delegation at the meetings of MAP and MCSD in the Ministry of Environmental Protection.
8. PAP/RAC Deputy Director participated in the meeting of coastal experts organized by the Council of Europe and UNEP (Strasbourg, 26-27 June and Helsinki, 15-17 September 1997). The objective of these meetings was to discuss draft model of the coastal law, and the draft Coastal Code of Conduct. He was elected a member of the editorial board for the Code of Conduct.
9. Executive Board of PAP/RAC released Mr. Petar Reic from his duty of the Director of PAP/RAC on 3 September 1997, appointed Mr. Ivica Trumbic as director ad interim and invited for applications for the post of the Director of PAP/RAC.

#### Environmental Impact Assessment

10. A PAP/RAC training course on environmental impact assessment was held in December 1996 in Rijeka (Croatia). Some 30 national participants were trained in the role of EIA in planning- and decision-making process, EIA methods being implemented throughout the world and experience of Mediterranean countries in preparing EIA.
11. A PAP/RAC training course on environmental impact assessment was organized in Tirana in January 1997, together with the Albanian Committee of Environmental Protection. Albanian experts were informed about the practical approach to the preparation of EIA, presented with the relevant international experience, and explained the basic steps and methods used in the application of EIA.

12. Israeli experts prepared EIA case studies of Herzlya Marina and A Polypropylene Plant in Kiryat Nahum. The studies were translated into English, published and disseminated.

#### Water Resources Management

13. A draft version of Guidelines for Integrated Waste Resources Management, Development and Use of Coastal Water Resources has been completed by a team of Mediterranean experts.
14. An Expert Meeting to discuss, amend and adopt Guidelines for Integrated Waste Resources Management, Development and Use of Coastal Water Resources was held in Split on May 12-14, 1997. The final version of the Guidelines is expected to help national and local authorities in the Mediterranean to manage water resources efficiently. The Guidelines are being translated into Croatian.
15. PAP/RAC Deputy Director and PAP Coordinator of Water Resources activity participated at the Expert Meeting to discuss further cooperation between PAP/RAC and WSC-Malta, Split (15 May 1997). The meeting discussed the current and future cooperation between the two institutions, CAMP "Malta", and Training course on implementation of guidelines for integrated approach to development, management and use of coastal water resources.
16. PAP/RAC prepares three forthcoming meetings: (1) Training course on implementation of guidelines for integrated approach to development, management and use of coastal water resources in English (Malta, November 1997);(2) Training course on implementation of guidelines for integrated approach to development, management and use of coastal water resources in French (Tunis, December 1997), and (3) Expert meeting on water resources activity within CAMP (Malta, November 1997).
17. In cooperation with the Blue Plan and within the programme of the Mediterranean Commission for Sustainable Development, PAP/RAC prepares activity on sustainable water demand management. Its Coordinator for water resources actively participated in the Workshop on water resources in Frejus (September 1997).
18. Guidelines for urban master water planning are being prepared.

#### Soil erosion

19. With the financial support of the Spanish Government, a PAP/RAC Workshop was organized in October 1996 in Barcelona to present Guidelines for the Application of Common Consolidated Methodology of Mapping of Rainfall-Induced Erosion Processes in the Mediterranean Coastal Areas and Guidelines for Measurement of Erosion Processes in the Mediterranean Coastal Areas. The representatives of Mediterranean countries evaluated the above two Guidelines and the relevant case studies. They also visited the Vallcebre area which had been selected for the Spanish case study on mapping and measurement.

20. An Expert Meeting to edit the Guidelines for Mapping and Measurement of Rainfall-Induced Erosion Processes in the Mediterranean Coastal Areas took place in January 1997 in Rome. The participants reviewed the recommendations and suggestions for editing adopted by the Barcelona workshop, in particular the basic approach when merging the two documents, the recommended amendments and the problems related to merging of glossaries and bibliographies.
21. Turkish experts prepared a case study entitled Erosion Measurement in Caybogazi Catchment, South-Western Mediterranean Coastal Region and Spanish experts prepared case studies Erosion and Sediment Yield in the Vallcebre Experimental Catchments and Erosion Mapping of the Vallcebre Area (River Saldes Basin).
22. A number of Mediterranean countries and their institutions and experts agreed to continue with the PAP soil erosion activity in order to enhance their soil erosion management.
23. The final versions of the documents: "Guidelines for mapping and measurement of rainfall-induced erosion processes in the Mediterranean coastal areas" and "National reports on pilot mapping and measurement of rainfall-induced erosion processes in the Mediterranean coastal areas" were prepared.
24. The final draft of the document "Directives pour la mesure des processus d'érosion causés par la pluie dans les zones côtières méditerranéennes" was prepared.
25. Training course on mapping of erosion processes in Mediterranean coastal areas (Murcia, 24-27 September 1997) was held in cooperation with FAO and DGCONA (Spain). The course was attended by 19 participants from 9 countries. Preparations have been made for pilot projects on soil erosion cartography to take place in 1998-1999 biennium. These projects will also be discussed during the Murcia training course.

#### Aquaculture

26. Guidelines for the Selection and Protection of Sites Suitable for Aquaculture in the Mediterranean have been completed, both in English and French.
27. PAP/RAC continues to coordinate the EAM Network activities. The EAM Coordinator and the Director of PAP/RAC took part in the meeting (Rome, September 1996) which discussed the harmonization and course of EAM activities after the dissolution of MEDRAP.

#### Other activities

28. During the visit of the MAP Coordinator to PAP/RAC and Croatia on 28-29 October 1996, the Host country agreement was signed between UNEP and Croatia. The Agreement set forth the terms and conditions under which PAP/RAC shall act pursuant to the decision of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention. By this Agreement, the Centre's

regional and local roles were clearly divided, contributing to the future operational efficiency of the Centre.

**(d) Coastal Areas Management Programme (CAMP)**

The following is a summary of the progress achieved concerning the various CAMP projects being implemented by MAP:

1. PAP/RAC prepared, in cooperation with UNEP - Water Branch, a working paper and terms of reference for guidelines on integrated coastal area and River Basin Management. The first draft of the guidelines is expected to be finished in the first quarter of 1998.
2. PAP/RAC prepares a national training course on ICAM, with an emphasis on use of public maritime domain (Croatia), and a national training course on carrying capacity assessment in Syria. Both courses are scheduled for December 1997.

**CAMP Albania**

The activities currently being implemented by PAP/RAC under the CAMP Albania are:

- Water Resources Management Study for the Erzeni and Ishmi Rivers;
  - Carrying Capacity Assessment Study for Tourism in Lalzi Bay;
  - EIA for a Tourist Complex and Marina at Ksamili region.
1. Final version of the "Water Resources Management Study for the Erzeni and Ishmi Rivers" will be published by the end of the year. The chapters present, in an integrated manner, all the characteristics of water resources of the two watersheds which will enable proposals to be made concerning the optimal system for their exploitation, protection and sustainable management. Five more chapters of the Study are being prepared. A PAP/RAC expert visited Albania in February 1997 in order to review the work accomplished so far and to give recommendations for preparation of the remaining chapters.
  2. The work on the Carrying Capacity Assessment Study for Tourism in Lalzi Bay (the northern section of Albania's coast) is continuing. The local experts' reports, as well as the sectoral and mission reports of international experts, have been completed. The first draft of the final document has been prepared by the core team of PAP/RAC experts. The study is expected to give the synthesis of the tourism demand and development and to propose possible alternative approaches to tourism, with the special emphasis on the sustainable tourism development option.
  3. EIA for a Tourist Complex and Marina at Ksamili Region, proposed by Societa Turistica Saranda, was prepared. The objectives of the document preparation are to train national experts in carrying out EIA, to prepare the EIA document for the development project at Ksamili region and to use the prepared document in the management of the Ksamili region.
  4. On the occasion of the Training course on environmental impact assessment (Tirana, January 1997), a PAP/RAC expert reviewed the



work accomplished so far in preparation of the EIA for a Tourist Complex and Marina at Ksamili Region.

5. The document "CZM Plan for Durres-Vlore Region" was translated into Albanian. PAP/RAC disseminated a number of copies to relevant Albanian local decision-makers and experts.
6. The final report was submitted by Blue Plan to Albanian Authorities for comments, corrected and sent to CEP. The conclusions of the scenarios will be presented to the authorities soon.

### **Fuka-Matrouh CAMP (Egypt)**

1. The Senior Programme Officer at MED Unit paid a visit to Egypt during which he met with Dr. M. Fawzi, EEAA, on 11 March 1997, to review the status of the Fuka-Matrouh CAMP. It was stressed during this meeting that there was a need to speed up the finalization of the project and the presentation of its main conclusions and recommendations to the Egyptian authorities. In this connection, the second half of September 1997 was proposed for the final presentation conference.
2. The activities currently being implemented by PAP/RAC under the CAMP "Fuka-Matrouh" are:
  - Carrying Capacity Assessment of the Fuka Matrouh Area;
  - Integrated Coastal Area Management Plan (ICAM) of the Fuka Matrouh Area;
  - Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) for the ICAM Plan.
3. A PAP/RAC Expert Meeting on the above mentioned activities within CAMP Fuka was held in Alexandria on 17-18 November 1996. The participants of the meeting agreed upon the workplan of these activities which are to take place until the end of the Project in December 1997. They also discussed the national team members and the team leader, the time schedule of the team engagement, the venue of the ICAM plan preparation and logistics, and the terms of reference and contracts.
4. The PAP/RAC project manager of the CAMP Fuka-Matrouh presented the Programme objectives, the Programme institutional framework and the Programme components and activities accomplished so far at the National Seminar on Integrated Coastal Zone Management (Cairo, December 1996). During the Seminar, contacts were established with teams from other ongoing projects related to coastal areas and it was agreed to exchange information with other projects teams through project managers and EEAA.
5. Under the Carrying Capacity Assessment activity the tourism data is being collected and processed by PAP/RAC, preliminary tourism options are being elaborated; under the Integrated Coastal Area Management Plan (ICAM) activity the relevant information was gathered and main stakeholders were contacted; under the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) activity the SEA Guidelines are being prepared, sectorial studies are being completed, and the SEA study is being

finalized. Also, GIS data for CZM plan were collected and the relevant document prepared.

6. The document on land evaluation was prepared and the Soil Degradation and Desertification Study of the Fuka-Matrouh area was completed.
7. The first ICAM mission and the second CCA mission were held in Alexandria and Marsa Matruh from 16 May to 23 May 1997. Objectives of the mission were further work on tourism CCA study, conducting a brief introduction to the ICAM strategy preparation, preparing the strategy outline and getting stakeholders involved into ICAM process. The activities of the Project in the intermission (June-August) period have been concentrated on the preparation for the reports by the national team members. The intermission activities will be completed by the end of September. This will enable PAP/RAC experts to prepare the final draft CCA document and draft ICAM strategy during October 1997. This will, in turn, make possible next ICAM mission in mid-November 1997.
8. In January and February 1997, ERS/RAC experts have carried out the processing of relevant georeferenced data in order to produce the final Land System map to be annexed to the CAMP Report, together with the Land Unit map set out by the PAP/RAC. At the same time, the ERS/RAC experts have revised the final version of the report, jointly prepared by PAP/RAC and ERS/RAC in October 1996.
9. The CAMP activities planned by ERS/RAC can be thus considered accomplished (February 1997). The final document named "Assessment of Natural Resources and Soil Conservation Issues" was completed by the two centres in an effort to integrate complementary activities.

PAP/RAC will take care of printing the document, in time for the final presentation of the CAMP, in Egypt.

Meanwhile, ERS/RAC is already seeking a follow-up to the outcome of its intervention in the CAMP, through a possible extension in Egypt or in other Mediterranean countries with similar needs. ERS/RAC has designated and produced a new illustrated poster introducing the finalities and carried-out phases of work.

10. Blue Plan final report has been prepared. One international expert and four local ones were involved in this case. After a good start with encouraging participation and products, the finalisation was rather hard and tiresome, losing about 18 months trying to encourage a team of 'young' professionals and ending up mainly with the report of the international expert.

### **Sfax CAMP (Tunisia)**

1. The activities currently being implemented by PAP/RAC under the CAMP "Sfax" are:
  - Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan of Sfax area;
  - Water Resources Management Study of the Sfax area;

- Establishment of the GIS database for Sfax.
2. A PAP/RAC mission of experts visited Tunisia in September 1996 with the task to launch activities in the Water resources management study. A detailed programme for the Study preparation was drafted; the working team was selected; relevant terms of reference were prepared and contracts signed.
  3. A PAP/RAC mission of experts visited Tunis and Sfax in December 1996 concerning the preparation of the Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan of Sfax. A meeting was held with the local team leader; a detailed programme for the Plan preparation was drafted; the working team was selected; relevant terms of reference were presented; a GIS document and thematic charts were also presented; the financial plan was proposed to the local team.
  4. A PAP/RAC consultant on GIS visited Sfax and Tunis on March 8-14, 1997 and (a) reviewed the activities of the local GIS team defined as the follow-up after the mission in March 1996; (b) reviewed the existence and availability of the data needed for the activities within the CAMP Sfax; (c) checked the hardware equipment to be used for the establishment of the GIS database for Sfax; (d) defined the final contents of the GIS data base and the proposal for organization of the work; and (e) discussed the follow-up activities.
  5. A PAP/RAC mission visited Sfax and Tunis on March 10-14, 1997, and:
    - (a) discussed the workplan of the ICAM Plan of Sfax and assigned relevant tasks to local team members;
    - (b) discussed the timetable of the Water resources management study with the local team leader and presented comments to him on the draft chapters I and II of the Study;
    - (c) discussed the timetable of the GIS activity and assigned relevant tasks to local team members.
  6. PAP experts conducted a mission to Tunis and Sfax (1-5 June 1997) concerning activity "Integrated Planning of Water Resources". Remarks on and amendments to documents on water resources management were explained in detail to the Tunisian expert team. A meeting was held, on the same occasion, with ANPE representative to ensure the timely completion of all activities planned under the CAMP "Sfax".
  7. The final version was prepared of the vol. I, II and III of the document "Plan de gestion des ressources en eau pour la zone cotiere de Sfax".
  8. GIS maps are being prepared for the completion of documents within activity on GIS in CAMP "Sfax".
  9. PAP/RAC and Tunisian experts started to prepare Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan within CAMP "Sfax" on the occasion of PAP/RAC mission to Tunis and Sfax (1-5 June 1997).

10. In its capacity as coordinator of CAMP Sfax, SPA/RAC has prepared an overview report of the activities undertaken by the different MAP components between January 1994 and December 1996. The report has been transmitted to the Tunisian Focal Point and to the concerned MAP components. In accordance with the Activity 7.7 "Specially Protected Areas", SPA/RAC organised a workshop on the impact assessment of urban planning on natural sites and wild flora and fauna. The workshop was held in Sfax on 2 and 3 April 1997 and was attended by 20 participants from the local administration, the university and NGOs. Following the workshop and within the framework of the elaboration of a management plan for the natural site of Thyna, SPA/RAC organised a field study with the participation of SPA/RAC experts and consultants, the representative of ANPE and the representative of the COTUSAL company which is the main user of the wetland of Thyna.
11. The final document of the ERS/RAC intervention in the CAMP, named "Modélisation de la circulation côtière et de la distribution des rejets côtiers dans le chenal de Sfax", was issued in January 1997. A few copies were disseminated to involved Tunisian Authorities and MAP components for comments and suggestions. Its full distribution will be made on the occasion of the final presentation of the CAMP.

The outputs of the performed study have shown that the hydrodynamical characteristics of the Sfax coastal area cause pollutants' accumulation on coastal ecosystems rather than their transport and dispersion into open sea. Thus, results indicate that a high vulnerability to pollution is a characteristic of the concerned coastal strip. Moreover, this study highlights the importance of its integration with further, specific impact assessments to be developed in the concerned area.

12. The Blue Plan final report will be ready in October 1997. Working closely with experts from Sfax, Blue Plan experts have invested much more of their time and expertise in this case than in other CAMPs, and have used and developed in more depth the systemic and prospective tools. The draft final results were presented and discussed in Sfax at Abou Nawas Hotel on 20 and 21 February 1997 with the participation of local and national concerned public staff and experts.

### **CAMP Israel**

1. The activities currently being implemented by PAP/RAC under the CAMP "Israel" are:
  - First National Strategy for Sustainable Development;
  - Management of Coastal Resources and Hazards - Sediments and Cliffs;
  - Economic Instruments;
  - Coastal Area Management.
2. The Agreement on the Coastal Area Management Programme for Israel was signed on 12 November 1996 between the Government of the State of Israel and UNEP/MAP. PAP/RAC Deputy Director, in his capacity as CAMP "Israel" Coordinator on this occasion, discussed with the local

authorities the workplan and budget of the PAP-related part of the CAMP Israel. The list of Israeli consultants, contents of terms of reference for consultants and financing issues were agreed upon during the mission.

3. The PAP/RAC Deputy Director had a meeting in Rabat in December 1996 with representatives of Israel and the BP/RAC regarding the preparation of the terms of reference and contracts for Israeli consultants engaged in the implementation of the CAMP "Israel".
4. Under the First National Strategy for Sustainable Development, the following terms of reference were prepared by PAP/RAC and contracts were signed with Industry Target Group Facilitator, Tourism Target Group Facilitator, Environmental Expert on Industry and Environmental Experts on Hazardous Substances. Under the Management of Coastal Resources and Hazards activity, a contract was signed on two subactivities: "Management of Coastal Sand Reservoir" and "Management of Cliff Instability". Relevant target groups held regular meetings and their outputs are being used for the strategy preparation.
5. In the framework of the implementation of activity 1.8 "Sustainability Development for Open Space and Biodiversity", SPA/RAC is preparing a document on major long-term environmental issues in Israel relating to biodiversity which is under preparation by a national consultant. The activity is implemented with the collaboration of PAP/RAC in its capacity as coordinator of this CAMP.
6. On the occasion of the signing of the Agreement between the UNEP/MAP and the Israeli Government, the ERS/RAC mission to Israel (November 1996) - together with the MAP delegates - has focused on making a survey of the coastal area to be studied, and laying the foundations for the joint work planned with the Israeli counterparts.

ERS/RAC presented a project focused on the remote sensing support for analysis of coasts - the results of which will contribute to the CAMP implementation - to be developed with the direct involvement of the Israeli Ministry of Environment.

Shoreline changes, coastal land cover, bathymetry assessment, suspended sediments analysis, sand inventory, sea state and wind are all topics to be studied which will contribute to the implementation of an information system to support the planning and decision-making processes of Israel for coastal management.

7. A further mission to Israel made in early March 1997 was aimed at starting-up the ERS/RAC activities for the CAMP. During the mission, it was agreed with the Israeli Planning Department of the Ministry of Environment to entrust local experts with the analysis of carried-out and ongoing satellite remote sensing applications at national and local levels. As for capacity building, ERS/RAC has proposed that an Israeli expert could spend one/two months in Palermo working on satellite data processing together with ERS/RAC experts. A second meeting relevant to the implementation of the project between ERS/RAC and the Israeli partners as well as other participants, has been held in Puget-sur-Argens

(France), in order to examine the intermediate achieved results and to plan the following actions.

8. Within this CAMP, the Blue Plan supports two target groups (energy and transport) for the establishment of the first national strategy for sustainable development in the framework of the Israeli CAMP. For this purpose, two national consultants were contracted through the national CAMP Coordinator and PAP/RAC.

### **CAMP Morocco**

A contract was prepared and signed in December 1996 with Moroccan experts for the preparation of a report and critical review on the recent activities carried out in the area of Al-Hoceima in the field of planning and management. The results of the work will identify the existing gaps and the need at the local level which will in turn form the content of the CAMP agreement.

### **CAMP Algeria**

1. Following a preparatory mission by the Coordinator of MAP and the Director of Blue Plan, regular contacts were established with concerned experts from the Under-Secretariat for Environment concerning technical and financial aspects of the feasibility study. Finally, a green light for the launching of this study was given on April 16 to the Environment Officers, and for the expected feasibility study to be done by ANAT and ISMAL in close co-operation with Under-Secretariat for Environment and Blue Plan. A working session was held in Algiers on April 26, 1997 with concerned experts. This study will provide an in-depth analysis of the selected region with a good information base and will prepare the ground for the Algeria-MAP Agreement. A preliminary draft was submitted in August 1997.
2. PAP/RAC entrusted BP/RAC with preparing terms of reference and contracts with Algerian counterparts regarding the feasibility study on CAMP Algeria. The funds for the Study preparation were transferred to BP/RAC.

### **CAMP Malta**

1. Based on the results of a PAP/RAC mission to Malta organized in February 1996, a tentative programme of activities within the CAMP "Malta" was prepared. Subsequently, a break was taken during elections in Malta until the new administration was established, including the appointment of the new National Focal Point for PAP. It is planned that the Deputy Director of PAP will go on mission to Malta towards the end of May 1997. The tentative programme of activities will be discussed with the responsible Maltese authorities, and hopefully adopted. On that basis, a relevant agreement will be prepared, to be signed, tentatively, by the end of the year.
2. PAP/RAC Deputy Director visited the newly appointed Focal Point of Malta (29-30 May 1997) with the following goals: to make acquainted with

a new institutional organization of Environmental Department, to re-confirm the readiness of the national authorities to prepare CAMP, to carry out preparatory actions towards preparation of an Agreement for realization of the CAMP Malta and to visit all the most important actors for realization of the CAMP Malta.

### **CAMP Lebanon**

1. Despite the request at the Antalya Meeting of the Contracting Parties (1993), the Lebanese CAMP could not be launched mainly because of very specific local conditions (reconstruction of the country after a 16 year war period and re-birth of the Ministry of Environment). A lot still needs to be achieved but the situation is improving.
2. On behalf of MED Unit/MAP, Blue Plan revived this project during a multi purpose mission to Lebanon from 8-11 April 1997. The Minister, his Advisor and concerned staff were briefed on MAP CAMP projects, concepts and approaches, and showed a great interest in having such a project in the Southern part of the country. Preparatory steps will be defined soon with the Ministry of the Environment for launching of the Lebanese CAMP.
3. Preparatory steps will be defined soon with the Ministry of Environment for the launching of a Lebanese CAMP. Meanwhile, it is important to note that it will be necessary to review the related studies and programmes, define an added value, assist the Ministry's staff to select a relevant coastal region and identify the consultant(s) for the feasibility study. Considering the current Ministry's staff (quantity and expertise), a national coordinator for the CAMP project and Coastal Zone Management (CZM) in general, to be based in the Ministry for staff on-the-job-training, could be an interesting option for all partners.

### **CAMP Slovenia**

1. During their extraordinary meeting (Montpellier, 1-4 July 1996), the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention approved the establishment of a CAMP project in Slovenia in line with the procedure being applied by the Secretariat for CAMP projects and taking into consideration the results of the evaluation of CAMP's.
2. The Secretariat has initiated some contacts with the Slovenian authorities, and it was informed that the EU PHARE project on Coastal Zone is being finalized. Concrete recommendations are expected from this project, beginning of 1998, which will provide the basis for the future MAP/CAMP in Slovenia.

## **(ii) Conservation of nature, landscape and sites**

### **(a) Specially protected areas**

#### **Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Areas (SPA/RAC)**

##### **I. Collection of data and periodic assessment of the situation**

Activity: Collection of data and assistance to countries for the preparation of inventories of species and sites of special interest

1. Following a recommendation of the IX Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to "assist States in drawing up inventories of those elements that make up the natural marine and coastal Mediterranean heritage, as a first step in view of developing national strategy for the conservation of biodiversity", SPA/RAC has started several preparatory activities. These include:
  - i) the preparation of an assessment report on the existence and state of national relevant inventories;
  - ii) a census of the capabilities available at the country and regional levels that could participate in the drawing up of the inventories;
  - iii) the elaboration of common criteria for the preparation of the inventories, to be agreed and adopted by the Contracting Parties (see above).

A contract for assistance in the undertaking of the above activities has been defined with the World Conservation Monitoring Centre. Questionnaires have been elaborated and sent to the focal points for SPA and other institutions/organisations with the aim of collecting information relevant to the activities (i) and (ii). The main outputs of these activities will be two reports dealing with existing relevant inventories and institutional capacities respectively, which will be presented at the next meeting of the Contracting Parties (November 1997).

Concerning the third activity, it is planned to accomplish the elaboration of the criteria through the following main steps:

- elaboration of a draft common criteria by an Ad-Hoc Working Group, including representatives of competent organisations, either intergovernmental or non-governmental;
- revision of the draft of common criteria in a meeting of expert representatives of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention;
- formal adoption of the criteria by the Contracting Parties, at the next ordinary meeting (November 1997).

A meeting of the Ad-Hoc Working Group was convened in Tunis on 6 and 7 March 1997, and was effective in defining draft criteria and providing guidance for their further elaboration, currently in progress. The group included representatives of the Council of Europe (Bern Convention Secretariat), European Topic Centre on Nature Conservation (ETC/NC), IUCN, World Conservation Monitoring Centre (WCMC), WWF, SPA/RAC. The outcomes of the group represented the working basis for the meeting of experts on criteria for the preparation of inventories of the elements of biological diversity in the Mediterranean region, which was convened in Athens from 8 to 10 September 1997. The criteria finalized by the meeting will be submitted for consideration and adoption to the Tenth



Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties (Tunis, 17-21 November 1997).

## II. Legal measures (SPA Protocol)

Activity: Assistance to countries in their legislation dealing with Specially Protected Areas and species conservation

2. SPA/RAC is undertaking a comparative study between the Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean (Barcelona, 1995) and the Convention on Biological Diversity (Rio de Janeiro, 1992). The study is also expected to briefly consider the other relevant international treaties applicable to the Mediterranean. The study is mainly aimed at:
  - (i) providing assistance to the Parties in fulfilling their obligations under different international instruments according to a consistent and integrated approach;
  - (ii) providing the bases for the establishment of operational links between the Secretariats of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean. The study is expected to be presented at the X Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties.

## III. Planning and Management

Activity: Implementation of the Action Plan for the conservation of Mediterranean Marine Turtles

3. Upon the request of the Croatian National Focal Point, SPA/RAC is supporting a marine turtle project in Croatia. The project consists of two main aspects:
  - (i) a survey of potential marine turtles nesting beaches along the southern coast of Croatia, which was carried out in July/August 1997, under an agreement between SPA/RAC and the Croatian Natural History Museum;
  - (ii) a public awareness programme on marine turtle in Croatia. In this regard, SPA/RAC has defined an agreement with Natura, Society for the Protection of Nature in Croatia, for the production of a poster and a pamphlet (see also para. 4).
4. Within the framework of a coordinated marine turtle tagging programme, SPA/RAC is working on the production of information and awareness material. The conception and realisation of a poster and a folder are in progress. The material is expected to be produced at first in two languages (English and French or Arabic), and is expected to be available for distribution to the participating groups by the end of 1997. A version of the folder in the Croatian language is also expected (see para 3).

5. The French version of a manual on marine turtle tagging (title: *Manuel de marquage des tortues marines en Méditerranée*), produced within the framework of a coordinated marine turtle tagging programme, was published. The manual is currently being distributed to the participants of the programme, and to other interested researchers and organisations.
6. SPA/RAC provided technical and financial support to the Tunisian Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning for the establishment of a seasonal station to monitor the nesting activity of the loggerhead turtle *Caretta caretta* on the Kuriat Islands. Researchers, students and volunteers participated in the project which had a duration of two months (15 June to 15 August 1997).

Activity: Implementation of the Action Plan for the management of the Mediterranean Monk Seal

7. SPA/RAC is organising, in collaboration with the Department of Fisheries of Cyprus and the Cyprus Wildlife Society (CWS), a field study along Cyprus coasts aimed at assessing the existence of a resident monk seal colony and of suitable habitats for the species. To this effect, contracts have been defined with the CWS and Hellenic Society for the Study and Protection of the Monk Seal (Mom-HSSPMS). The field mission was carried out in May 1997 and was successful in identifying suitable habitats of the species in the area of study and evidence of its presence.

Activity: Implementation of the Action Plan for the conservation of Cetaceans in the Mediterranean Sea

8. In accordance with the recommendations of the meeting of the ad hoc group of experts convened in Montpellier on 5 March 1994, SPA/RAC organized a Research/Training Cruise for the study of cetaceans in the Eastern part of the Mediterranean Sea. The cruise took place during the summer months of 1997 (end of May - beginning of June) in the Ionian waters around Kefallonia island (Greece), with participation of researchers and trainees from Cyprus, Greece, Israel, Italy and Malta. A preparatory workshop attended by representatives from the participating countries was organized by RAC/SPA at the UNEP/MEDU Office in Athens on 16 and 17 December 1996 to set out the programme, the methodology and the geographical scope of the cruise. The workshop offered also the occasion to present and discuss several research methods and techniques used in cetacean surveying. Tethys Research Institute (Italy) was entrusted by RAC/SPA with the scientific and technical coordination of the cruise, including the assignment of an appropriate vessel.
9. The first edition of a Directory of Marine mammal specialists (Mediterranean and Black Sea) has been finalised, and is being distributed in a first phase to those who are included in it, and to the National Focal Point of SPA. The Directory has been prepared within the framework of a joint project between SPA/RAC and the Tethys Research Institute (Italy). It includes at present 167 specialists, each record containing the contact address and number(s), the field(s) of interest and the working language(s).

Activity: Assistance to countries in the field of biodiversity conservation

10. In order to foster the integration of marine biodiversity within the national strategies for the conservation of biodiversity under preparation in several Mediterranean countries with support from GEF/UNDP, SPA/RAC is promoting the preparation of national synthesis on the marine components of biological diversity aimed at highlighting the major and/or sensitive components and identifying activities and practices which have or are likely to have an adverse impact on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity. A first initiative in this field was launched by RAC/SPA to prepare complementary studies to the Tunisian national biodiversity study. This SPA/RAC activity consists of the preparation of:

- (i) a report on the marine biodiversity in Tunisia, containing inventories of species and ecosystems based on the available data. The report will also include recommendations for conservation and for data collection.
- (ii) a report on the biological biodiversity components submitted to exploitation in Tunisia. The report will include an analytical study on the interaction between fishery activities and biodiversity conservation.

A mission to Tunis of the consultants expected to prepare the above reports was accomplished between 24 and 28 March 1997, and included working meetings with the concerned Tunisian authorities and institutions.

Activity: Assistance to countries in the selection, establishment and management of Specially Protected Areas of ecological value

- 11. The area of Ras El Hekma was identified by the studies prepared within the framework of the CAMP Fuka-Matrouh project as a site of natural interest on which a Marine and Coastal Protected area could be established. SPA/RAC is promoting the preparation of a feasibility study for the establishment of a Marine and Coastal Protected Area in Ras El Hekma, through the compilation of existing data on the area and a field visit. A mission to the site was accomplished by the consultant in charge of the preparation of the study. The report of the consultant was received by SPA/RAC and will be presented to the next meeting of presentation of the results of the CAMP Fuka-Matrouh project.
- 12. SPA/RAC launched a project aimed at undertaking the preparatory studies for the establishment of a marine and coastal protected area on the site of Oum Toyour in the Northern Mediterranean coast of Syria. The project implies the participation of national and international experts, and will cover both the natural and legal aspects. The following main outputs were produced:
  - (i) report on the marine ecosystems;
  - (ii) analytical study of the Syrian legislation in the field of species and natural sites conservation;
  - (iii) feasibility study for the establishment of a marine and coastal protected area at Oum Toyour. A presentation/consultation meeting is scheduled to be held in Syria in the first quarter of 1998.

Activity: Assistance to countries for the improvement of the management of SPAs

- 13. SPA/RAC is undertaking an assessment of the management of marine and coastal protected areas in the Mediterranean region, mainly aimed at identifying major shortcomings and needs at the national and site levels. The activity provides for the definition at the outset of a standard methodology to be applied in the assessment. A first version of the methodology was prepared. With a view to obtaining information

necessary within the assessment, two types of questionnaire have been elaborated on the basis of the methodology, for the national and at the site level respectively, and have been sent to the Focal Points for SPA. The replies received are currently being processed.

#### **IV. Exchange of experience and strengthening of national capabilities**

Activity: Training sessions on the scientific and technical aspects of the conservation of the natural common heritage

14. SPA/RAC sponsored the participation of three trainees from Southern Mediterranean countries, namely Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia, to the international seminar *Marine mammals: biology and conservation*, organised at Valencia, Spain, 9-13 September 1996 by the Universidad Internacional Menéndez Pelayo.
15. SPA/RAC is sponsoring the participation of three trainees from Morocco, Spain and Tunisia to the *Stage de Formation en Cétologie Méditerranéenne*. The training took place in Sète (France) from 14 to 19 April 1997, and is organised by the *Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes of Montpellier*.
16. SPA/RAC is organizing a training workshop on the management of public access to SPAs. The workshop will take place at the "Station Biologique de la Tour du Valat" (France), and is organized in collaboration with "Atelier Technique des Espaces Naturels", Station Biologique de la Tour du Valat" and "Parc National de Port Cros".
17. SPA/RAC sponsored the participation of three trainees from Lebanon, Tunisia and Medasset to two Training Sessions on Turtle Conservation which were held at Lara Station, Cyprus, between 24 July and 4 August and 4-14 August 1997.

#### **V. Strengthening of the Legal Framework**

18. SPA/RAC assisted the MAP Coordinating Unit in providing Secretariat services during the following meetings:
  - Meeting of Government-designated experts on the Annexes to the Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean UNEP(OCA)/MED WG.119 (Monaco, 23 November 1996);
  - Meeting of Plenipotentiaries on the Annexes to the Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean UNEP(OCA)/MED IG.10 (Monaco, 24 November 1996).

Such assistance mainly consisted of:

- Preparing the working document at the two meetings;
- SPA/RAC staff joining the Secretariat during the working sessions of the meetings;

- Preparing the report of the Meeting of Experts and participating in the preparation of the Final Act of the Meeting of Plenipotentiaries.

## **VI. Other activities**

19. Within the framework of the project "Formulation of a Strategic Action Programme (SAP) for the Mediterranean Sea, to Address Pollution from Land-Based Activities", mainly funded through a GEF PDF Grant, SPA/RAC was requested by the MAP Coordinating Unit to prepare a report on critical habitats and ecosystems and endangered species in the Mediterranean Sea. The report was aimed to contribute to the preparation of a Transboundary Diagnostic analysis (TDA) for the Mediterranean region, expected to be the basis for the preparation of the SAP. A SPA/RAC staff attended the Ad-Hoc Consultation of Regional Experts on the Mediterranean GEF Project, held in Athens, 14-16 January 1997. The above-mentioned report was finalized and transmitted to the MAP Coordinating Unit.
20. Following a recommendation of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties (Montpellier, 1-4 July 1996), SPA/RAC participated in several meetings held within the Bern Convention and the Pan-European Biological and Landscape Diversity Strategy, in particular:
  - Meeting of coordination for the establishment of a European Action Programme for threatened species (Strasbourg, 12-13 September 1996);
  - Group of experts on implementation of Recommendation No. 16 (1989) on Areas of Special Conservation Interest (Paris, 4-6 November 1996);
  - 16th Meeting of the Standing Committee of the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Strasbourg, 2-6 December 1996).
  - Workshop on Drafting and Implementing Action Plans for threatened species (Bertiz, Spain, 4-6 June 1997).
21. In the general framework of the activities of the Centre, SPA/RAC staff attended the following other meetings or seminars:
  - XIII Meeting of MED Unit and Regional Activity Centres (RAC) Barcelona, Spain, 17-19 September 1996);
  - Réunion officielle de négociation sur l'accord sur la conservation des cétacés de la Mer Noire, de la Méditerranée et de la zone Atlantique adjacente (Monaco, 19-24 November 1996);
  - IV Mediterranean Environmental Forum, Cooperation for a Sustainable Development (Barcelona, Spain, 13-15 December 1996);
  - First Meeting of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (Rabat, Morocco, 16-18 December 1996);

- XIV Meeting of MED Unit and Regional Activity Centres (RAC) (Athens, Greece, 3-4 March 1997);
- Training the Trainers Workshop in Biodiversity Information Management (Cambridge, UK, 17-21 March 1997);
- Meeting of the IUCN Working Group for the Mediterranean (Tunis, 10-12 April 1997);
- Meeting of the Bureau of the Mediterranean Protected Areas Network (MEDPAN) (Porto Torres, Italy, 16 April 1997);
- Symposium on "Management of Protected Islands in the Mediterranean" (Porto Torres, Italy, 17-19 April 1997);
- Meeting of the IUCN Regional Advisory Council (West/Central Asia and North Africa) (Cairo, 7-8 June 1997).
- Meeting of MAP National Focal Points (Athens, Greece, 7-9 July 1997).

**(iii) Assessment, prevention and elimination of marine pollution**

**(a) MED POL activities**

1. During 1996, with regard to the implementation of the national monitoring programmes, in view of the very limited funds available, only one agreement was finalised for Malta (40,000 US \$) and limited assistance for the purchase of chemicals was given to Algeria (3,500 US \$) and Egypt (13,500 US \$) in the framework of their respective data quality assurance programmes.
2. The XXX Meeting of the Inter-Agency Advisory Committee for MED POL was held in Athens from 9 to 11 December 1996 to review the activities implemented in 1996 and to discuss and prepare the work for the implementation of Phase III.
3. The two-year project "Enhancement of Data Processing Facilities for Environmental Data at the Coordinating Unit for the Mediterranean Action Plan (UNEP/MEDU)", which had been signed in 1994 between UNEP/MAP and the Italian Government, was formally completed with a final closure meeting that took place in Rome, Italy, on 6 March 1997. The Italian Government provided the main funding of this project (US\$ 312,000) and the Laboratory of Marine Biology (LMB) of the University of Trieste was designated as the supporting and cooperating organization. The LMB provided the scientific expertise by seconding a full-time Data Analyst to Athens for the entire duration of the project. And the International Centre for Science and High Technology (ICS) of Trieste provided a part-time Scientific Advisor.
4. Three main objectives of the project were:
  - (a) strengthening of UNEP/MAP with additional scientific know-how and technology, staff, hardware equipment, and software in order

to upgrade handling of the MED POL marine pollution data (collection, computerization, verification, analysis, and presentation);

- (b) improvement of UNEP/MAP capabilities in processing and efficiently disseminating the information concerning the Mediterranean marine environment and the coastal zones to developing countries; and
- (c) improvement of regional cooperation and assisting the implementation of UNEP/MAP programme in the Mediterranean countries.

5. With the completion of this project, the following tasks were achieved:

- (a) MEDU PC hardware was upgraded, and the users were trained on the use of Windows and various other PC software;
- (b) the MED POL marine pollution data at MEDU was computerized and maintained in a database constructed using PC ORACLE software;
- (c) computerized MED POL data were analyzed to provide information on the quantity of data, strategy of monitoring activity and statistics on contamination;
- (d) a training course on handling, processing, interpretation and presentation of Mediterranean marine pollution data was held jointly by LMB, UNEP/MAP and ICS at the International Centre for Theoretical Physics in Trieste, Italy, 11-16 December 1996, and was attended by 22 technical officers and scientists from the Mediterranean region;
- (e) Geographic information system/desktop mapping (GIS/DM) and desktop publishing (DTP) were employed for the creation and compilation of the Project output; and
- (f) MEDU was connected to Internet in December 1994 with the purchase of high-speed MODEMs from Project funds (As a follow-up to the project, a major study on UNEP/MAP's Internet connection and home-page setup is now underway and it is hoped that it will be finalized soon).

The various aspects of the Project and its output were presented at several meetings of Mediterranean countries where the overall value of the Project for UNEP/MAP was underlined.

- 6. Extensive work was carried out by the Secretariat during 1996 in order to prepare the basis for the implementation of the MED POL Phase III Programme adopted in Montpellier.
- 7. The Meeting of the MED POL National Coordinators was held in Delphi from 20 to 23 May 1997 (UNEP(OCA)/MED WG.127/6). The Coordinators examined a number of working documents prepared by the



Secretariat, presenting the proposed lines of work of MED POL Phase III related to pollution assessment, pollution control and the relevant implementation and coordination mechanisms. In particular, the Meeting examined, amended and approved an operational document for trend monitoring, an operational document for compliance monitoring as well as the priority lines of work for the implementation of the LBS Protocol. The Meeting also examined and approved some new implementation mechanisms related to direct assistance for the monitoring and the research activities.

8. As part of the Pollution Assessment component of MED POL Phase III, the Secretariat worked on the compilation of a draft operational document for the pollution trend monitoring. Several contacts were made with scientists from and outside the region and a small consultation meeting was held in Athens on 10-11 April in order to propose a programme which would take into account the experience gained from other programmes and which would, at the same time, take into consideration the specific needs of the region. The draft operational document for the monitoring of trends was presented to the Meeting of the MED POL National Coordinators held in Delphi, from 20 to 23 May 1997, where it was amended and approved.
9. As part of the Pollution Control component of MED POL Phase III, the Secretariat, with the assistance of experts of the region, worked on the compilation of a draft operational document for the compliance monitoring. The document was presented to the Meeting of the MED POL National Coordinators held in Delphi, from 20 to 23 May 1997 where it was amended and approved.
10. As a follow up to the decisions of the MED POL National Coordinators held in Delphi from 20 to 23 May 1997 (UNEP(OCA)/MED WG.127/6), arrangements were made to start formulating countries' capacity building programmes which would be the basis for the implementation of MED POL-Phase III and the provision of direct assistance.
11. At their Meeting in Delphi, the National Coordinators agreed that, in order to make better use of the limited funds available, the assistance programme would concentrate every year on a limited number of countries thus expecting to cover all countries in need in a period of 4-5 years. Basic assistance related to the participation in intercalibration exercises, design of proper trend and compliance monitoring and analysis of results, would however continue to be provided every year to all countries. As a result, in September 1997, when funds were made available, seven countries were selected for the formulation of a detailed capacity building programme which will be the basis for the provision of direct assistance according to the availability of funds. Other countries will be selected in 1998. The National Coordinators of Albania, Algeria, Egypt, Libya, Morocco, Tunisia and Turkey were therefore contacted and asked to provide the list of the laboratories designated to participate in the MED POL-Phase III Programme and information on the type of analysis they were able to carry out, the instruments used, the scientists involved and also their capacity to participate in the research programme.

As a follow up, experts will soon visit the countries selected in 1997 and, in close consultation with the National Coordinators and the national scientists, will prepare detailed capacity building programmes related to their possible participation in all aspects of MED POL-Phase III. Financial assistance will be provided according to the needs and the availability of funds. The same procedure will be followed in 1998 for additional countries thus enabling the Secretariat to have a clear picture of the capabilities of the participating countries in the more objective-oriented MED POL Programme.

12. The Data Quality Assurance programme continued under the coordination of IAEA/MEL laboratory in Monaco through visits and distribution of reference material and calibration standards. After the termination of the post of Maintenance Engineer in July 1997, IAEA/MEL, responsible for the technical coordination of the instruments' maintenance services since 1975, prepared a detailed report on possible alternatives aiming at the continued efficiency of the instruments used in the region for the MED POL analyses. The report will be distributed to National Coordinators for comments and possible follow up.
13. A Meeting of Experts was organised in Malta from 29 September - 1 October 1997, to review the MED POL Biomonitoring Programme. The Meeting reviewed the results of the 1996 pilot biomonitoring programme and agreed on a common set of biomarkers and species. They also examined a draft manual on the recommended biological effects techniques. They recommended that every support is given to this new activity in view of the fact that biomonitoring provides fundamental data useful for risk assessment and for an early warning system which will enable a timely formulation of governmental strategies to prevent irreversible alterations in Mediterranean coastal ecosystems and human health.
14. Fellowships to enable MED POL participants to attend training courses, meetings, workshops and seminars related to the implementation of the programme and the presentation of their work continued to be provided. During the period January 1996 - September 1997, 64 scientists from 15 countries benefitted of travel grants or training courses, as part of MED POL.
15. In the framework of the implementation of the LBS Protocol, during 1996 the Secretariat submitted a proposal for a PDF-B grant to the GEF Secretariat for the formulation of a Strategic Action Programme to address pollution from land-based activities. The proposal was approved with a financial grant of US\$ 340 and the activities started in 1997.
16. The activities included the formulation of a costed and targeted Strategic Action Programme as well as Guidelines for the preparation of national action plans to be prepared on the basis of a regional Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis and a Report on the pollution "Hot Spots" to be identified country by country. The activity also included the preparation of an investment portfolio covering possible interventions related to the solution of problems of transboundary significance to be examined by a Donors' Conference which would consider the possibility to launch a full project in 1998. MED POL was assigned the responsibility of the overall

coordination of the project while WHO was asked to be technically responsible for the preparation of the Report on the pollution "Hot Spots".

17. A letter was sent on 24 October 1996 to all MAP Focal Points to inform them of the launching of the project and to ask them to designate national Focal Points for the coordination of the project. All MAP Focal Points were also asked to examine the possibility to establish inter-ministry committees in view of the multidisciplinary nature of the project.
18. A first Meeting of the project Steering Group, composed of MAP/MED POL, GEF Coordination Unit in Nairobi, UNDP and World Bank, was held in Athens in January 1997 to agree on the overall implementation strategy and on the selection of the experts in charge of the preparation of the various documents. An Ad hoc Consultation Meeting was also held in January 1997 to discuss with the experts and to agree on the first draft outlines of the documents. Three National Coordinators also attended the Consultation. A technical Consultation on the preparation of the Report on the pollution "Hot Spots" was held in Athens in April 1997.
19. As part of the implementation of the LBS Protocol, a Meeting was held in Ischia from 15 to 18 June 1997 to examine a Strategic Action Programme to address pollution from Land-Based Activities (UNEP(OCA)/MED WG.130.8). The Meeting, convened as part of a project mostly financed by a GEF PDF-B grant, examined in detail the first draft Programme as well as a Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis and a report on Priority Pollution "Hot Spots" and provided precise indications to the Secretariat for the preparation of new draft texts.
20. A second Government-designated Experts Meeting is being held in Athens from 13 to 16 October 1997 to examine the new draft Strategic Action Programme to address pollution from land-based activities with a view at its approval and subsequent transmission to the Contracting Parties for adoption. The Strategic Action Programme, if adopted by the Contracting Parties, will be the basis for a larger GEF project proposal which will be examined in conjunction with a donor conference. The new GEF project will aim at the possibility to fund specific activities of the Programme - related to problems and issues of regional transboundary relevance - which could prepare the ground for the full implementation of the Strategic Action Programme.
21. As a follow up to the main gaps and problems resulted from the collation of information needed for the preparation of the Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis and the Report on Priority Pollution Hot Spots, WHO is organizing a Workshop for trainers of waste water treatment plant operators which will take place in Athens at the end of 1997.
22. The Secretariat feels that the outputs of the activity will greatly assist the implementation of the Protocol and establish a solid basis for the future activities required by the provisions of the Protocol.
23. With reference to the implementation of the Dumping Protocol, arrangements were made to hold the second Government-designated experts Meeting to finalize and approve guidelines for the management of dredged spoils in Malta in December 1997. The Meeting would be the

follow up to the first Meeting on the same subject held in Valencia in May 1996 (UNEP(OCA)/MED WG.114/4). The guidelines, if approved by the Government-designated Experts, will be transmitted to the Contracting Parties for adoption.

24. Arrangements were made to recruit in 1997 an expert to advise the Secretariat on the first steps to be taken to assist countries in the future implementation of the Hazardous Wastes Protocol with the aim of accelerating its implementation procedures after its entry into force.

(b) **Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC)**

1. Since the Extraordinary meeting of the Contracting Parties held in Montpellier in July 1996, and in conformity with the strategy adopted in 1989 and with the programme approved by the Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties in June 1995, REMPEC carried out activities aimed at improving and strengthening the regional system for cooperation and mutual assistance in cases of emergency and at increasing the levels of preparedness for and response to accidental marine pollution of individual coastal states. During the period under consideration, the activities and volume of work of the Centre continued to increase while the conditions for the functioning of REMPEC, which have gravely deteriorated during the past years, did not improve. In October 1996, the Focal Points of REMPEC had their biennial meeting where, according to the mandate given by the Extraordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties held in Montpellier, the issue of regional cooperation within the new context of MAP Phase II was discussed in depth and proposals to be submitted to the next meeting of the Contracting Parties were prepared.

**I. MAIN ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED DURING THE PERIOD JULY 1996 -MAY 1997**

2. REMPEC has mainly concentrated its activities on:
  - training
  - capacity building
  - assistance in case of emergency

Training

3. In September 1996, REMPEC prepared and conducted a week long module on "pollution preparedness and response" as part of a three month course on "Handling of hazardous cargoes in port" which IMO was organizing in cooperation with the International Maritime Academy (IMA) in Trieste, Italy (23-27 September 1996).
4. The regional training course on preparedness for and response to marine pollution incidents involving oil and other harmful substances in the Mediterranean (MEDIPOLE) was organized by REMPEC in cooperation with and with the assistance of the Marine Environment Protection Division (MEPD) of the Ministry of Mercantile Marine of the Hellenic Republic between 29 November and 7 December 1996, in Pireaus, Greece.
5. The voluntary contribution of the Ministry of Mercantile Marine of the Hellenic Republic as the host country, and in particular the considerable work carried out by the Director and the staff of the Marine Environment Protection Division of the same Ministry, was essential for the smooth running and final success of the course. MEDIPOLE '96 provided an opportunity for establishing contacts with the Greek shipping, oil and chemical industries which are expected to further encourage the cooperation between government and industry in the field of accidental marine pollution preparedness and response.

6. A specialized regional training course on response to packaged dangerous goods lost at sea was organized by REMPEC in collaboration with "Le Centre de Documentation de Recherche et d'Experimentations sur les pollutions accidentelles des eaux" (CEDRE), in Brest, France between 4 and 8 February 1997.
7. Currently, REMPEC is preparing several training activities. In cooperation with the Italian chemical industry (ENICHEM), the Centre is preparing a regional specialized training course on prevention, preparedness and response to accidents involving hazardous and noxious substances carried in bulk which will be held from 24 to 29 November 1997 in Porto Marghera, Venice at the ENICHEM's training centre. REMPEC also conducted national training courses/workshops in the following coastal states of Libya and Croatia in May and June respectively.

#### Capacity building

8. The Centre gives priority to the development of national systems for preparedness and response and to the adoption of subregional contingency plans. These areas constitute the main impetus of present and future actions of REMPEC.
  - a) **Assistance in developing national systems for preparedness and response**
9. The activities of the Centre in this area are primarily concentrated on the following coastal States: Albania, Lebanon, Libya and Syria. These States are in the process of developing their own national systems.
10. The Director of REMPEC visited Syria (22-24 November 1996) where he discussed with REMPEC's Operational Focal Points the assistance REMPEC could provide to Syria in developing its national system for preparedness and response. The visit of the Director was followed by the visit of a consultant in January 1997 (25-30 January 1997) who prepared a comprehensive draft project proposal concerning the completion of the Syrian national system for preparedness and response to accidental marine pollution. A workshop for decision-makers and government officials is scheduled to be organized in Latakia, next year.
11. The Director also visited Lebanon (25-27 November 1996) where he discussed with the Lebanese authorities (Director General of Transport) the follow-up to the recommendations regarding the development of a national system for preparedness and response which were contained in the report of the consultant who visited Lebanon in 1995.
12. A consultant visited Albania (8-16 December 1996) to prepare a comprehensive draft project proposal concerning the completion of the national system for preparedness and response of Albania which could be subsequently submitted for financing to potential funding donors.
13. The Director together with the technical expert of the Centre visited Libya in May this year to discuss with the relevant Libyan authorities (government and oil industry) the development of a national system for

preparedness and response to accidental marine pollution. During the same visit a training course for "on scene-commanders" was organized.

**b) Preparation of sensitivity maps**

14. Within the framework of the CAMP for Sfax (Tunisia), a project for the preparation of sensitivity maps for the region of Sfax started in March 1996. This project is conducted in cooperation with Ecole des Mines de Paris, IFREMER, CEDRE and Ecole National d'Ingénieur de Sfax.

15. The project is now in its final phase. The next steps are: the validation and installation at ENIS (Sfax) in October and training in December. The results of this project have been achieved as a consequence of the high level of coordination between the difference partners participating in the project as well as of the significant contribution of various

Tunisian administrations or institutions which provided the data requested.

16. It is the intention of the Centre to promote under other projects which will be conducted by REMPEC in the Mediterranean region, the concept and the methodology for preparing sensitivity maps developed under this pilot project. It is also the intention of the Centre to enlarge the partnership with a view to use a core group of experts whose combined expertise will consist of contingency planning, physical oceanography, remote sensing, the management of digital/geo reference data as well as GIS.

**c) Emergency preparedness and response to maritime related accidents involving hazardous substances in port areas**

17. Following the request put forward by Turkey and Morocco, two pilot projects have been prepared by REMPEC:

i) one is related to a risk assessment study and associated capacity building for preparedness and response for the port of Mersin, Turkey;

ii) the other one concerns the development of an emergency plan for the port of Tangier, Morocco (which should be re-examined considering the changes regarding the port of Tangier).

18. REMPEC is currently working closely with the Greek authorities on the preparation of a pilot project on risk analysis for port storage and handling facilities. The project concerns a terminal handling VCM in the port of Thessaloniki, Greece.

19. Following a meeting which took place in Slovenia in June 1997 REMPEC prepared a draft proposed project on "Role assessment and associated capacity building for preparedness and response to maritime related accidents involving liquid chemicals in bulk for the Port of Koper (Slovenia) - this draft project should be finalized soon.

20. These projects will be financed by non-MTF funds. On this topic, REMPEC is cooperating with UNEP IE/PAC within the context of its APELL programme.

**d) Assistance in the development of bilateral or multilateral operational agreements (subregional contingency plans)**

21. In June 1996 REMPEC submitted to the EC for approval and financing through LIFE financing instrument, a project proposal concerning the development of spill response capabilities of Cyprus, Egypt and Israel. The project was approved in December 1996 and the relevant contract was signed by the EC and IMO on behalf of REMPEC in February 1997. The total budget of the project is 699,200 ECUs.
22. The first activity organized under this project was the First Meeting of the Steering Committee of the parties to the Subregional Contingency Plan (Cyprus, Egypt and Israel) held in Cyprus on 24-25 March 1997.

The Steering Committee approved the following activities to be carried out during 1997 under this project:

- three national training courses on shore clean-up techniques (September-October 1997);
  - a subregional training course on the use of oil spill modelling in emergency management (December 1997 in Egypt);
  - a meeting of the national operational authorities responsible for the implementation of the Subregional Contingency Plan (December 1997 in Egypt);
  - phase one of three consultancies on sensitivity mapping, oil spill modelling and communications respectively (to be initiated June 1997).
23. Various activities are planned during the biennium 1998-1999 under this LIFE project.
24. Discussions and preparatory work are still going on for the preparation of a project leading to the development of a Subregional system for combating major marine pollution incidents in the North Adriatic (Croatia, Italy and Slovenia).
25. A meeting of the Steering Committee of the oil pollution management in the south Mediterranean sea project (Algeria/Egypt/Libya/Morocco/Tunisia) took place in MAP's offices in Athens in July 1997. REMPEC was invited to participate in the meeting which decided that REMPEC should be a member of the Steering Committee with the view to ensure full coordination between the GEF project and the MAP programme.

Assistance in case of emergency

26. In conformity with its responsibility to organize and maintain the Mediterranean Assistance Unit (MAU) in a state of operational readiness,



REMPEC with a view to facilitate the activation of the MAU in case of emergency, negotiated arrangements with selected centres of expertise taking into account that the effectiveness of the MAU may largely depend on the availability of the back up resources and logistic support which the established centres of expertise can put at the disposal of experts forming the MAU.

27. To date, REMPEC has negotiated arrangements for the participation of their experts in future MAU missions with the French organization Centre de Documentation de Recherche et d'Expérimentation sur les Pollutions Accidentelles des Eaux (CEDRE) and the Spanish Government owned company Sociedad Estatal de Salvamento y Seguridad Maritima (SASEMAR).
28. The Meeting of REMPEC Focal Points (October 1994) requested and subsequently the Ninth Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention (Barcelona, June 1995) approved that the money recovered from insurers, as reimbursement of expenses incurred by the MAU, be put in a special revolving fund which the Centre should use for financing the MAU activities. As of 30 March 1997, the balance of the MAU Revolving Fund account was USD 17,191.62.
29. The last Meeting of REMPEC Focal Points (Malta, October 1996) "requested the Director to investigate with the MAP coordinating Unit the possibility of permanently transferring yearly to the same account a part of funds allocated to REMPEC for intervention of the MAU in cases of emergency when these are not used, with a view to making these funds instantly available when the MAU is activated and with a view to increasing the capital and to accrue due interests" (REMPEC/EG.14/17 para.53).
30. The French authorities organized in cooperation with TOTAL Oil Company a major pollution response exercise the 16 and 17 of September 1997 off Toulon (ANTIPOL 97). Observers from Western Mediterranean countries were invited through REMPEC. Several countries sent observers to the exercise. The exercise was successfully conducted. International communications and international assistance were tested. The RAMOGEPLAN was activated - the result was satisfactory.
31. No major accident occurred in the Mediterranean region during the period under consideration. However maritime incidents did occur which in some cases required REMPEC, at the request of the concerned country, to provide information and advice.

**e) Activities in which REMPEC is deeply involved and to which REMPEC contributed**

32. REMPEC represented by its Chemical Expert is participating in and contributing to the GESAMP Working Group on the evaluation of the hazards of harmful substances carried out by ships.
33. The Chemical Expert of REMPEC is involved in the revision of Section 1 of the IMOs Manual on Chemical Pollution.

**II. THE FUNCTIONING OF REMPEC**

34. The capacity of the Centre to fulfil its role and perform its functions depends to a large extent on its resources and working conditions. The extension during these past years of the Centre's mandate, associated with additional responsibilities, has resulted in a cumulative increase in its activities without the provision of additional resources. The working conditions which currently prevail at REMPEC are seriously hampering the functioning of the Centre. In turn, this might jeopardize all the positive results already achieved as well as the future expectations of the Mediterranean countries.

The development of the Centre's capacities for assisting the coastal states to be prepared for and to respond to marine pollution emergencies

35. Regional cooperation in case of emergency can be really effective only if the necessary information is available to all Contracting Parties and if it is regularly updated. It is the main function of REMPEC to collect and disseminate such information. REMPEC fulfilled this function by developing and maintaining the Centre's capacities in order to provide, as rapidly and as completely as possible, information which states served by the Centre might need either within the framework of preparedness for response or in case of an accident. This has been accomplished largely through the development and upgrading of a partially computerized Regional Information System.
36. The development of the Regional Information System, in particular the computerized part of it, was established with the essential contribution of a junior engineer seconded by the French Government. The engineer was the only resident computer expert at the Centre and he was deeply involved in the setting up, organization, as well as maintenance of the Centre's computer system (hardware-software). In August 1995 the French Government interrupted the secondment of a young engineer CSNA. The consequences of not having such a secondment have been obviously detrimental to the Centre during the period under consideration. The Centre was not in a position to properly fulfil some of its functions and some planned activities were not carried out.
37. This situation was discussed during the last REMPEC Focal Points meeting. As a result of discussions with representatives from the Oil Industry, negotiations started and an agreement was reached with the French company Elf Aquitaine which offered to financially support the secondment of a young chemical engineer for a duration of 14 months

starting in October 1997. The task of the second engineer will be to contribute to the development and updating of the Regional Information System and in particular to further develop the REMPEC maritime transport-oriented database (TROCS). This agreement is in line with the development of cooperation between government and industry in the area of preparedness and response to accidental marine pollution.

38. To properly fulfil its functions of providing information and of assisting countries in cases of emergency, the Centre established a duty officer system, together with the necessary communication arrangement, which ensures that the Centre is operational 24 hours a day, all year round. However, with the continuous increase of activities which leads to increase in travel and with the limited number of professional staff, more and more often there is no professional present at REMPEC to carry out this function.

#### Equipment

39. The Centre has renovated its PC system. New equipment for a network system has been purchased and installed and currently the Centre is changing from a DOS to Windows operating system. IMO is providing some assistance for this change. However, with no resident computer expert, this task has been a heavy burden for the present professional staff. For the future we are considering having a contract for systems administration services which will necessarily have a financial implication.

#### Building

40. During the Extraordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties in Montpellier in July 1996, the representative of Malta confirmed that his government is taking the necessary steps for the relocation of REMPEC to new premises. Contact is maintained between Maltese authorities and the Director of REMPEC on this issue. Efforts are currently being made by the Maltese Government to relocate the Centre to improve the performance of its functions.

#### Administrative and financial management

41. The expanding role and constantly increasing number of activities of REMPEC have led to an extensive overload of the administrative work. The Centre has reached a situation which is very critical in terms of administrative and financial management. The last meeting of REMPEC Focal Points (October 1996) discussed once again this issue. Bearing in mind the fact that the position of Deputy Director (Administration) was changed on 1 January 1989 to that of Chemical Expert to enable REMPEC to fulfil its new responsibilities but no extra resources of any kind were allocated at that time, the Focal Points "deplored that their reiterated request for an administrative and financial professional officer had not been taken into account" (REMPEC/EG.14/17 para 126). The Meeting adopted the following resolution: "REMPEC Focal Points, noting the extent of the tasks to be carried out by the Centre, request forcefully that the Coordinator of the Action Plan include on the REMPEC budget a position for an administrative and financial professional without reducing

the current resources of the Centre" REMPEC/WG.14/17 para 126 - Malta 22-26 October 1996).

### III. THE MAIN OUTCOME OF THE MEETING OF FOCAL POINTS OF REMPEC

42. During the Extraordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention held in Montpellier in July 1996, the IMO Representative recommended, and the Meeting agreed, that the matter of regional cooperation in the field of prevention and response to marine pollution from sea-based activities be examined with the new context of MAP Phase II at the next meeting of Focal Points of REMPEC and that the meeting submit proposals to the Contracting Parties in this connection. The report of the meeting of REMPEC Focal Points is presented as reference document: REMPEC/WG.14/17.
43. The Meeting of Focal Points of REMPEC had an in-depth discussion and agreed upon the following subjects:
- regional strategy regarding the prevention of the pollution of the marine environment by ships;
  - amendment of the Emergency Protocol;
  - objectives and functions of REMPEC in the new context of MAP Phase II;
  - 1998-1999 programme.

#### Regional strategy regarding the prevention of the pollution of the marine environment by ships

44. The meeting of REMPEC Focal Points had a long and fruitful discussion on this issue and reached conclusions on some important points related to this subject (REMPEC/WG.14/17 para 107):
- combating spills in many countries is shared between several ministries (environment, transport, interior etc.) and the extension of the role of REMPEC in the prevention of accidents would mean increased involvement of the ministries responsible for maritime transport within the activities of MAP;
  - the risk of accidental pollution is often increased by the lack of appropriate implementation of international conventions;
  - coastal states may be the victims of accidents or violations of international conventions, such as illegal discharges that pollute beaches and require sometimes costly cleaning with often very little possibility of compensation;

- safety of navigation plays a pivotal role in the prevention of maritime casualties and the improvement of traffic navigation schemes; the operation of VTS and the implementation of other navigation measures contribute to the protection of the marine environment;
  - there should be no specific safety requirements for ships plying the Mediterranean Sea over and above those agreed upon under the IMO *aegis*, since shipping is a world-wide activity and standards have to be global; this, however, should not prevent concerted action on the side of the Mediterranean states at the IMO whenever they have common interests to forward to the IMO;
  - reception facilities are an important feature to avoid illegal discharges but guidance is necessary for the treatment and disposal of wastes when they have been received in a port.
45. As a result of the general discussion, the meeting prepared a proposed "regional strategy on prevention of the pollution of the marine environment by ships" which is attached to a draft resolution to be submitted for adoption to the next Contracting Parties meeting (UNEP(OCA)/MED WG.129/5).

#### Amendment to the Emergency Protocol

46. It was considered essential to build the proposed regional strategy on a sound legal basis, therefore the Meeting unanimously agreed to amend the Emergency Protocol to introduce within it the provisions necessary to implement the regional strategy. This strategy has also been incorporated into the Draft Resolution.
47. The Meeting discussed the possible calendar for revisions which are to be decided by the Contracting Parties during their meeting of November 1997. To reduce costs, it would be preferable that the adoption of the amendments be linked with the Contracting Parties Meeting in 1999 and that one of the necessary experts meeting be linked with the 1998 Meeting of Focal Points, (preferably scheduled during the first quarter of the year). To reduce costs further, France said that it was ready to provide consultants free of charge. This was accepted by the meeting.

#### Objectives and functions of the Centre

48. The Meeting, according to its conclusion regarding the regional strategy on the prevention of the pollution of the marine environment by ships, considered that the objectives and functions of REMPEC, as described in Annexes to Resolution 7, adopted in 1976 and amended in 1989, have to be revised. The Meeting therefore requested the Director of the Centre to prepare a draft revision of this annex and to present it for approval by the Contracting Parties together with the strategy on the prevention of pollution by ships (REMPEC/WG.14/17 para. 117).
49. The Director of REMPEC prepared as requested a preliminary draft which was submitted together with the Draft Resolution to the MAP Focal Points for consideration.

50. The document UNEP(OCA)/MED WG.129/5 which was submitted to the MAP Focal Points Meeting for consideration prior to its presentation for adoption by the Contracting Parties Meeting, contains the Draft Resolution prepared by the Meeting of REMPEC Focal Points. The Draft Resolution proposes that the Contracting Parties:
- a) adopt the regional strategy on prevention of the pollution of the marine environment by ships. The strategy is attached as Appendix I to the Draft Resolution;
  - b) decide that the Emergency Protocol is to be amended in order to introduce in it the provisions necessary to implement this strategy. The proposed date for the adoption of the proposed amendment is the date of the 1999 Meeting of the Contracting Parties;
  - c) decide that pending the adoption and entry into force of these amendments REMPEC be charged to implement this strategy;
  - d) adopt the amended objectives and functions of REMPEC. The preliminary draft revision of the Annex to Resolution 7 was attached as Appendix II to the Draft Resolution.

#### Programme for the 1998-1999 biennium

51. The Meeting of REMPEC Focal Points approved a proposed programme for the 1988-1999 biennium in the field of preparedness for, response to and cooperation in case of accidental marine pollution. The proposed programme for the 1998-1999 biennium which is submitted for consideration to the MAP Focal Points Meeting prior to its presentation for adoption to the Contracting Parties Meeting appears in the document UNEP(OCA)/MED WG.129/4.
52. The participants of the meeting of REMPEC Focal Points underlined the importance of cooperation in the field of prevention, preparedness and response to marine pollution by ships between the ministry in charge of maritime transport and the ministry in charge of environment in their respective countries. All delegations were of the view that cooperation in this field between the two relevant ministries is essential.

#### **IV. PROJECTS PROPOSED WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE EURO-MEDITERRANEAN PARTNERSHIP**

53. The Director of REMPEC participated in the first meeting of experts on the implementation of the multi-annual rolling work programme for maritime transport in the Mediterranean organized within the framework of the Euro-Mediterranean partnership and which was held in Cyprus 14-16 October 1996. At this meeting regional projects concerning maritime safety and pollution prevention were identified. REMPEC presented two projects which have attracted the interest of the participants and REMPEC has been appointed project coordinator for these projects.
54. As agreed by the Cyprus meeting and subsequently by the REMPEC Focal Points Meeting (the following week), REMPEC prepared and submitted to the European Commission DG VII two project proposals:

1. Preparedness and response to accidental marine pollution by ships which includes three main components:
  - a. a comprehensive training programme;
  - b. the development of environmental sensitivity maps for spill response (in selected countries);
  - c. a study on salvage and towing capacity in the Mediterranean region which can be used in case of emergency;
2. Port reception facilities for collecting ship-generated garbage, bilge waters and oil residues which will have two main objectives:
  - a. promoting, in accordance with the MARPOL 73/78 Convention, the installation of port reception facilities for the collection of garbage, bilge waters and oily residues generated by ships, as well as at identifying the most suitable, harmonized approach to financially (economically) viable operation of these facilities in the Mediterranean Partner States.
  - b. studying (from a regional perspective) the question of the disposal, treatment or recycling of garbage and oily residues collected taking into account other experiences in the field; pilot and demonstration projects should be conducted (Cyprus, Tunisia).
55. Prior to their transmission to the European Commission, REMPEC received, as requested, written support from ministries in charge of maritime transport and/or ministries of environment from the non EU countries participating in the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership. The Director of REMPEC already had several meetings to discuss those projects with national authorities and with the European Commission.
56. The project related to port reception facilities has been accepted. It should start at the beginning of 1998 with a duration of two years.
57. The projects proposed are in line with the strategy approved within the framework of MAP as well as with the various medium term programmes adopted by the Contracting Parties. When preparing those projects REMPEC took into account other on-going or planned projects to avoid duplication and to ensure complementarity of efforts. On the other hand, when preparing its programme for submission to the Contracting Parties and when REMPEC will implement this programme, the Centre with a view to achieving its overall objectives, will take into account these projects and the fact that not all Mediterranean countries are participating in the Euro-Mediterranean partnership.

**V. COOPERATION BETWEEN GOVERNMENTS AND THE INDUSTRY CONCERNING PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE TO MARINE POLLUTION INCIDENTS**

58. For several years now, governments and industry representatives have been trying to develop their cooperation in the field of preparedness and response to marine pollution incidents. The last REMPEC Focal Points Meeting and more recent events showed that the cooperation between governments and industry is continuously improving.
59. The Mediterranean Oil Industry Group (MOIG) composed of representatives from the National Oil Industry from Mediterranean countries met in June 1997 in Marseille. The objectives of MOIG are to develop cooperation amongst national oil industries and between the industry and the Government.

The proposed initiatives of MOIG, approved by the informal meeting held in October 1996 during the REMPEC Focal Points Meeting, are:

- a) to develop, implement and update a database of available resources, personnel and equipment owned by oil industries and to facilitate the access to this equipment;
  - b) to exchange information on training programmes and exercises and encourage attendance of government personnel in industry training and courses and *vice-versa*;
  - c) to promote compatibility of government and industry contingency plans.
60. Concerning in particular the cooperation between the industry and REMPEC, good results are already evident. These include:
- a) an offer by the Italian chemical industry to cooperate with REMPEC in organizing a regional training course on chemicals;
  - b) a commitment by the French oil company Elf Aquitaine to financially support the secondment to REMPEC of a junior engineer;
  - c) provision by the oil industry of support to the governments of their respective countries when REMPEC organized regional training courses, in Turkey in October 1995 as well as in Greece in December 1996;
  - d) participation of REMPEC in ICE (International Chemical Environment) Emergency Response Programme of the European Chemical Industry.

**(c) Remote sensing activities**

**Regional Activity Centre for Environment Remote Sensing (ERS/RAC)**



## **I. Capacity-building activities**

1. Planning and decision-making processes for sustainable development in Mediterranean coastal areas are increasingly and concretely proving to be more effective the more they can rely on synoptic, multitemporal, updated and objective information. A proposal for encouraging planning authorities on one hand, and advanced technologies experts on the other hand, to meet each other, with the aim of strengthening the integration of information systems supported by earth observation data in the decision-making processes, is currently in progress. Presently, contacts with EEAA, Egypt, have been established, and a "forum" to be jointly organized by EEAA and MAP ERS/RAC might be held by the second half of 1997.

Such a proposal is expected to be extended to as many Mediterranean Countries as possible, according to the available budget of RAC/ERS.

## **II. Synergies between remote sensing and MEDPOL information sources**

2. In February 1997, Mr. Civili from MEDPOL, Mr. Barale from European Commission Joint Research Centre, and Mr. Raimondi and Ms. Viel from ERS/RAC met in Rome in order to plan the setting-up of possible synergies for supporting the MEDPOL programme with satellite derived information. In conclusion, they agreed that the opportunity to use satellite remote-sensing in the MEDPOL programme should be seriously considered, with the possibility of operational cooperation very soon.
3. It has been stressed that, in order to select the location of appropriate stations for the detection of contaminant trends, the knowledge of coastal dynamics in a specific coastal area as well as of its seasonal and annual patterns is necessary, in particular for evaluating the width of the area which is (statistically) under, or not, the influence of a specific discharge. In this context, it could be very useful to have the support of dynamic and spatial information derived from satellite remotely sensed data. As a matter of fact, satellite sensors could provide spatial and temporal patterns relevant to some sea surface parameters (such as temperature, chlorophyll-like pigments, suspended matter) which are directly influenced by river discharges and by plant discharges, as well as by sea dynamics, season, biology productivity, etc. Subsequent integration with other environmental information could further contribute to the designing of an effective trend monitoring programme, in particular, concerning the appropriate sampling stations distributions and measurement periods.

## **III. Oil spills pollution monitoring and surveillance in the Mediterranean area**

4. The use of the European ERS satellites (SAR data) for oil spills detection at sea is already well tested in Northern Europe. ESA/ERSIN (European Space Agency) is interested in extending to the Mediterranean sea the applications which proved to be very useful and cost-effective. In this connection, ERS/RAC, in the framework of an ESA activity, is performing a survey, in the Mediterranean area, on the state-of-the-art of oil spills monitoring for surveillance and intervention, in order to identify possible

users (countries) that could host a demo-service based on satellite remote sensing. This ERS/RAC activity, supported by ESA, is fully compliant with the recommendations ERS/RAC received from Contracting Parties.

#### **IV. Raising of external funds**

5. In January 1997, after about a two-month preparation, three projects were submitted for funding to the European Commission DG XII, Environment and Climate Programme. All three projects are relevant to activities recommended to ERS/RAC by the Contracting Parties and envisaged to be carried out in the Mediterranean. One of the above projects has been approved and financed, that is, the SEMEFOR project (Satellite based Environmental Monitoring of European Forest).

ERS/RAC is a partner in an international team including organizations and universities from Sweden, Austria and Germany. The project, among other things, envisages the setting-up of a methodological approach aimed at assessing deforestation phenomena and relevant causes in pilot areas, like Italy, that could be then transferred to interested Mediterranean States. It will last two years.

Three other different projects are currently being submitted to the EC for funding, such projects are: FORUM (Finding Out Requirements for Remote Sensing Use in the Mediterranean on land degradation issues); DISNODE (Desertification Information Systems Network for Operational Decision-making processes); DESIMA (Decision Support or Integrated Coastal Zone management).

6. In April 1997 a ERS/RAC mission to the EC in Brussels was conducted to explore other existing opportunities for raising funds for activities in similar or different fields (i.e. education and capacity building) compliant with the recommendations received by the Contracting Parties and with the short-term priorities defined by the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development.

#### **V. Euro-Mediterranean strategy**

7. In the framework of the MEDA programme focused on cooperation between Europe and southern Mediterranean countries, a two-day workshop (26-27 May 1997) has been arranged in Cairo by the European Commission in cooperation with the European Space Agency and with the Arab Institute of Navigation.

A specific project in the Agriculture area aimed at developing an advanced agriculture information system for crop state monitoring and yield forecasting in Mediterranean countries has been identified and is being discussed by a partnership of EU and South Mediterranean countries, including the ERS/RAC. A draft has been prepared.

#### **VI. Arrangement of and participation in international workshops**

*CEDARE Workshop*

8. The workshop on the "Use of integrated information systems for land degradation assessment" was held in Palermo on 9-12 September under the cooperation of ERS/RAC and CEDARE. It has been co-sponsored by MEDU. Attendants from five countries (Egypt, Kuwait, Lebanon, Syria and Tunisia) and experts from France, Germany, The Netherlands and Italy discussed the most suitable approach for the study of land degradation supported also by the application of remote sensing. The report was finalized in February 1997 by CEDARE and ERS/RAC and will be issued shortly by CEDARE. Further co-operation with CEDARE are envisaged in the field of capacity-building.

*International Eurisy Colloquium on "Satellite Observation for Sustainable Development in the Mediterranean Area" - Frascati (Rome), 2-3 October 1996*

9. On behalf of the MAP Co-ordinator, the ERS/RAC Director introduced the key-note "The Mediterranean situation: key issues and priorities" and chaired the session "Current experience of satellite applications for sustainable development".

A poster relevant to the ERS/RAC intervention in the CAMP for Fuka-Matrouh was also presented.

10. A number of other international conferences have been attended where ERS/RAC activities, as well as the MAP system, have been introduced.

**(d) Cleaner production activities****Regional Activity Centre for Cleaner Production (CP/RAC)****I. XIII Meeting of MED Unit and Regional Activity Centres (RACs)**

1. The XIII Meeting of MED Unit and RACs was held in Barcelona on 17-19 September 1996, at the invitation of the CP/RAC. The meeting took place at the premises of the Waste Agency of the Autonomous Government of Catalonia and all RAC Directors were invited to attend.

## **II. First Meeting of CP/RAC National Focal Points**

2. During the Extraordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution and its Protocols that was held in Montpellier in 1996 some of the objectives to be developed by the CP/RAC were established. During the period under consideration, the CP/RAC worked on these objectives.
3. One of these objectives was to organise the First Meeting of CP/RAC National Focal Points in order to set up a network between all of them. The goals of this network were:
  - to disseminate the concept of clean production and techniques and practices required for the achievement thereof, and to disseminate information on the advantages that clean production offers in terms of the global improvement of the productive sectors.
  - to facilitate transfer of knowledge, technology and experiences between the different NFPs to help invigorate and accelerate the introduction of clean production techniques and practices.
  - to foster initiatives and programmes that have a holistic approach to the environment, permitting the pollution generated by the countries of the Mediterranean Basin to be reduced, and to collaborate on the start-up of such initiatives and programmes.
  - to collaborate on the training of professionals and institutions that have to promote the technology in the different countries of the region, and help to provide them with access to such technology.
  - to agree on proposals of regional interest and analyse the status of clean production in the Mediterranean Region.
4. The first Meeting of CP/RAC National Focal Points was held in Barcelona on 9 and 10 June 1997. The most important objectives of this meeting according to the priorities of the Contracting Parties are to set up a network between all the NFP and to establish the working mechanism of this network according to circumstances, interests and priorities of every National Focal Point.
5. The following Contracting Parties attended the meeting: Algeria, Croatia, Cyprus, European Community, Egypt, France, Greece, Israel, Lebanon, Malta, Morocco, Spain, Tunisia and Turkey, as well as a representative of MEDU. All participants explained the present situation of environment and clean production in their countries and also expressed the needs and objectives they expect from the recently created network.
6. From this meeting several recommendations and a working programme were elaborated to be presented and approved by the next MAP Contracting Parties meeting in Tunis:
  - A series meetings of consultative experts nominated by the NFP be convened to discuss in-depth and provide practical

recommendation of adoption cleaner production procedures and methodologies with special reference to the following sectors (1998-1999), surface treatment and coating sector; leather tanning and other associated sectors.

- The CP/RAC to act as an intermediary body for organization, coordinating and monitoring of a training programme to facilitate regional multi-lateral contacts and access to know-how thus accelerating the introduction of cleaner production techniques and practices.
- The CP/RAC to request NFP for information concerning success stories in the adoption of CP methods in the Mediterranean Region for its eventual publication and dissemination among the countries in the Mediterranean.
- Launch a newsletter highlighting programmes of activities, achievements, etc. from different NFP.
- Collaboration with other similar centres on BATs and BEPs with a view to elaborate guidelines for the above-mentioned sectors.
- A meeting of NFP to be convened every two years unless required more frequently.
- Preparation of a questionnaire and start the collection and systematization of data on:
  - legal and statutory framework of cleaner production in the different countries, in order to present to the 1999 Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties a Report on the possibilities and difficulties of cleaner production implementation in the Region.
  - inventory of agents dealing with cleaner production in each country with a mention of their expertise and experiences in sectors/pollutants.
  - tools and methods used in the various MAP countries to approach industrial sectors to cleaner production.
- Distribution of the collected and systemized information through NFP.
- The attendants also deeply recommended the participation and collaboration of the CP/RAC in the "Training of trainers" seminars and courses that could be made within the region as well as in the sensitisation campaigns.

### **III. Other Activities**

#### CP/RAC Bulletin

7. On the occasion of the first meeting of the NFP, the Centre has presented the publication of a bulletin about CP/RAC. In this bulletin the objectives and functions of the Regional Activity Centre for Cleaner Production were explained, as well as the cleaner production concepts, methodology and benefits of its implementation. This bulletin is to be published in English and French and will be distributed to all National Focal Points.

#### MEDCLEANER Fact Sheets

8. A new publication of fact sheets called MEDCLEANER with success stories within the Mediterranean region will be introduced to show real examples of pollution prevention achieved by different companies. This fact sheet collection is to be published in English and French and will be distributed to all NFP.

#### Penetration to the Industrial Sector

9. To help companies implement cleaner production practices, it is important to set up a steady stream of information between the local agencies (NFP) and the industrial sectors. Companies, mostly small and medium size enterprises, need to be provided with the most objective, up-to-date information available, concerning the opportunities they have to implement an environmental manager system that gives priority to preventive rather than corrective practices, and the advantages it would represent. For this reason, it would be appropriate to see if NFPs are the most effective mechanisms for disseminating the concepts, practices and pollution prevention techniques within the industrial sectors of each country, or if it would be better to set up links with centres/institutions in each country which deal closely with the companies in coordination with the NFP of each country.

### **C. INFORMATION AND PARTICIPATION**

1. The library, which houses and manages a special collection of scientific and technical publications together with a complete collection of MAP meeting documents, offered assistance and reference services to the MEDU staff and the Mediterranean scientific, professional and student community.
2. During the period 1 November 1996 - 30 September 1997, 91 visitors were received and assisted in the library. One hundred eighty eight mail requests were filled, for a total of 774 items. Two hundred seventy nine issues of periodicals, 119 technical reports and 48 monographs were received, classified and processed.
3. The weekly report on the activities of the Coordinating Unit continued to be compiled and faxed to Nairobi. Development and maintenance of the documents database (MEDDOC) continued as did the Non-Governmental Organisations (NGO) database and reference/documents collection. An updated edition (July 1997) of the NGO/MAP Partner Directory was published.

4. The following MAP Technical Reports were published: No. 107, UNEP/WHO: *Guidelines for authorization for the discharge of liquid wastes into the Mediterranean Sea*; No. 108, UNEP/WHO: *Assessment of the state of microbiological pollution in the Mediterranean Sea*; No. 109, UNEP/WHO: *Survey of pollutants from land-based sources in the Mediterranean*; No. 110, UNEP/WHO: *Assessment of the state of pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by anionic detergents*; No. 111, UNEP/WHO: *Guidelines for treatment of effluents prior to discharge into the Mediterranean Sea*; No. 112, UNEP/WHO: *Guidelines for submarine outfall structures for Mediterranean small and medium-sized coastal communities*; No. 113, UNEP/IOC: *Final reports of research projects on transport and dispersion (Research Area II) - Modelling of eutrophication and algal blooms in the Thermaikos Gulf (Greece) and along the Emilia Romagna Coast (Italy)*; No. 114, UNEP: *Workshop on policies for sustainable development of Mediterranean coastal areas, Santorini island, 26-27 April 1996. Presentation by a group of experts*; No. 115, UNEP/BP: *Methods and Tools for Systemic and Prospective Studies in the Mediterranean*; No. 116, UNEP/IAEA: *Data Quality Review for MED POL (1994-1995), Evaluation of the analytical performance of MED POL laboratories during 1994-1995 in IAEA/UNEP laboratory performance studies for the determination of trace elements and trace organic contaminants in marine biological and sediment samples*; No.117, UNEP: *La Convention de Barcelone pour la protection de la mer Mediterranee contre la pollution et le developpement durable*; No. 118, UNEP/WMO: *The Input of Anthropogenic Airborne Nitrogen to the Mediterranean Sea through its Watershed*.
5. They were sent to 743 individuals and institutions, MTS recipients, a total of 4073 items. Thirty copies of each MAP Report were sent to UNEP, Nairobi. One Spanish and two Greek Nationals, University graduates, interned in the library during June and July 1997.
6. Issue number 33 of MAP Bulletin "MEDWAVES" was issued and distributed in English, French and Arabic. Issue number 34 was issued and distributed in English and French. The Arabic version will be ready soon. It should be noted that the layout of these issues have been made internally by the computer service of MEDU.
7. The MAP Brochure: *Le Plan d'action pour la Méditerranée: Contribution au développement durable du Bassin méditerranéen (The Mediterranean Action Plan: A contribution to sustainable development in the Mediterranean Basin)* 33 pp., was translated from French into English.
8. In conformity with the Terms of Reference of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD), shall maintain relations with the United Nations Commission of Sustainable Development (UNCSD). The first meeting of the MCSD (Rabat, December 1996) agreed that the Commission should submit a short report to the fifth meeting of the UN Commission (New York, 8-25 April 1997) and the Special Session of the General Assembly (New York, 23-27 June 1997), on the establishment of the MCSD, supported by useful background information on the situation with regard to sustainable development in the Mediterranean region. The Brochure on "The Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development - A tool for Mediterranean Strategy and a Regional Bridge between Global and National levels" was issued in English and French and was distributed during the two UN meetings.

9. The MAP Home Page was uploaded on 25 July 1997 and may be accessed through UNEP server at :

URL:www.unep.org

or directly at : [www.unep.org/unep/regoffs/medu/home.htm](http://www.unep.org/unep/regoffs/medu/home.htm)

It consists of Information on MAP; History and Milestones; Legal Frameworks; Institutional Structures; Partnerships; Programme of Activities; Meetings; Publications; and up-to-date news as well as glossary and option for the downloading of selected MAP documents and publications. The MAP Home Page is updated twice-a-month.

#### **D. STRENGTHENING OF THE LEGAL FRAMEWORK**

##### Hazardous Wastes Protocol

1. The protocol on the prevention of pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal (Hazardous Wastes Protocol) was approved by the Conference of plenipotentiaries held in IZMIR, Turkey, on 30 September - 1 October 1996.
2. Sixteen Contracting parties have signed the Protocol and as of September 1997, no Contracting party has ratified the Protocol. Therefore, the Contracting parties should speed up the process of ratification of this important instrument.

##### Protocol concerning Specially protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean

3. In accordance with the provisions of the protocol on Specially protected Areas and Biological Diversity as adopted by the Conference of Plenipotentiaries held in Barcelona, on 9-10 June 1995, three Annexes to the protocol were prepared by the Secretariat and submitted to the Meeting of Plenipotentiaries (Monaco, 24 November 1996) for its consideration.
4. The Meeting adopted the following three Annexes:
  - Annex I: Common criteria for the choice of protected marine and coastal areas that could be included in the SPAMI list;
  - Annex II: List of endangered or threatened species;
  - Annex III: List of species whose exploitation is regulated.
5. As of September 1997, no Contracting parties has ratified the new SPA protocol.



### Liability and compensation

6. In consultation with Croatia, the first meeting of Government-designated Legal and Technical Experts on the draft procedure on liability and compensation for damages resulting from the pollution of the marine and coastal environment in the Mediterranean was held in Brijuni, Croatia, on 23-25 September 1997. Croatia agreed to provide the additional financial resources as well as all the Conference facilities.
7. A draft procedure on liability and compensation has been prepared by the Secretariat for consideration by the first meeting of experts. The meeting thoroughly reviewed the draft text, made various amendments and decided to initiate the preparation of a draft protocol which would take into account the elements discussed at the meeting in Brijuni and which would be submitted to a second meeting of experts during 1998.
8. The report of the first meeting of experts is contained in document UNEP(OCA)MED WG.117/4.

### Status of the legal instruments

9. An informal document containing the texts of the amended Action Plan, the Barcelona Conventions and its protocols, as well as the new protocols on Offshore and Hazardous Wastes, was issued in English and French (April 1997).
10. As of 30 September 1997, no Contracting Party has ratified any of the new legal instruments approved by the meetings of the Contracting Parties. The status of signature and ratifications of the Barcelona Convention and its protocols as of 30 September 1997 is attached as Annex III of this report.

**ANNEX I**  
**REGIONAL TRUST FUND FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE**  
**MEDITERRANEAN SEA AGAINST POLLUTION**  
 Status of Contributions as at 31 August 1997  
 (In United States Dollars)

COUNTRIES	Unpaid pledges as at 31 Dec. 1996	Adjustments for prior years	Pledges for 1997	Collections during 1997 for 1997 and for years	Collections during 1997 for prior years	Unpaid pledges for 1997 & prior years
Albania	3,084	0	3,300	0	3,084	3,300
Algeria	9,268	0	49,603	0	0	68,761
Bosnia Herzego	37,476	0	14,148	0	0	51,620
Croatia	81,863	0	46,733	0	0	127,686
Cyprus	0	0	6,601	6,601	0	0
E.C.	0	0	114,014	114,014	0	0
Egypt	0	0	23,103	22,347	0	766
France	0	0	1,731,839	1,731,639	0	0
Greece	(354,894)	0	132,486	0	0	(222,609)
Israel	0	0	69,307	69,307	0	0
Italy	3,096	0	1,430,643	1,289,616	0	144,124
Lebanon	0	0	3,300	0	0	3,300
Libyan Arab Republic	0	0	0	0	0	0
Malta	603,362	0	92,881	0	0	696,243
Malta	(264)	0	3,300	3,300	0	(264)
Malta	0	0	3,300	3,276	0	24
Morocco	(60)	0	13,202	0	0	13,162
Slovenia	0	0	31,689	0	0	31,689
Spain	0	0	683,626	683,626	0	0
Syrian Arab Republic	12,336	0	13,202	0	0	25,638
Tunisia	0	0	9,301	0	0	9,301
Turkey	0	0	106,052	104,901	0	1,151
Yugoslavia	489,976	0	0	0	0	469,976
<b>Total</b>	<b>766,240</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4,680,858</b>	<b>4,028,626</b>	<b>3,084</b>	<b>1,314,368</b>
Additional Cont						
E.C.*	669,888	0	666,033	666,033	669,888	0
Spain	0	0	83,639	83,639	0	0
Host Country**	0	0	400,000	400,000	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,325,128</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6,536,831</b>	<b>4,984,669</b>	<b>662,972</b>	<b>1,314,368</b>

\* The E.C. requests that these funds, which are inclusive amounts of aid received in specific amounts to be decided, and their payment

ANNEX II

CALENDAR OF MEETINGS ORGANISED IN THE FRAMEWORK OF MAP  
AS OF 30 SEPTEMBER 1997

Meeting	Date. Place	Organizer & co-sponsor (co-sponsor in brackets)	Responsible Officer	Report Status
	<u>1997</u>			
Regional Workshop on Application of Environmental Sound Approach to Planning and Development of Tourism	9-11 January Split	PAP RAC (UNEP-MEDU)	I. Trumbic	PAP-P/W.2/1
Meeting of the Steering Group for the Implementation of Mediterranean GEF Project to address Pollution from Land-based Activities	13 January Athens	UNEP-MEDU	F.S. Civili	Issued by GEF/Nairobi
Ad-hoc Consultation Meeting to review Draft Outlines of Mediterranean GEF Documents	14-16 January Athens	UNEP-MEDU	F.S. Civili	UNEP(OCA)/ MED WG.123/2
National Training Course on the Application of ELA	20-24 January Tirana	PAP/RAC (UNEP-MEDU)	A. Baric*	PAP-12/TC.7/1
MEDEXPOL97	4-8 February Brest	REMPEC (UNEP-MEDU)	J-C Sainlos* S. Micallef*	Issued by REMPEC
First Meeting of the Bureau of MCSD	20-21 February Athens	UNEP-MEDU	L. Chabason A. Hoballah*	UNEP/MCSD/ BUR/1/5
XIV Meeting of RAC Directors	3-4 March Athens	UNEP-MEDU	L. Chabason I. Dharat	UNEP(OCA)/ MED WG.122/3
Working Session Hypothesis and Scenarios CAMP Sfax	6-7 March Sfax, Tunisia	BLUE PLAN (UNEP-MEDU)	B. Glass*	Issued by BP/RAC

Meeting	Date, Place	Organizer & co-sponsor (co-sponsor in brackets)	Responsible Officer	Report Status
Meeting of the ad hoc group on criteria for the preparation of inventories	6-7 March Tunis	SPA/RAC (UNE-MEDU)	M. Saied M. Barbieri	Issued by SPA/RAC
Ad hoc Group for the Elaboration of Draft Criteria for Inventories of Species and Sites	6-7 March Tunis	SPA/RAC (UNEP-MEDU)	M. Barbieri	Issued by SPA/RAC
Starting Session for Coastal Zone Management Plan- CAMP Sfax	10-14 March Sfax	PAP/RAC (UNEP-MEDU)	I. Trumbic*	CAMP/1997/ TU/I
Meeting of the Competent National Authorities of the Parties to the Subregional Contingency Plan (Cyprus, Egypt, Israel)	24-25 March Cyprus	REMPEC EU (UNEP-MEDU)	J-C Sainios* D. Domovic*	Issued by REMPEC
Ad hoc Group on MAP/RAC Structure	26-27 March Athens	UNEP-MEDU	L. Chabason I. Dharat	UNEP(OCA)/ MED WG.126/3
Consultation Meeting of Regional Experts on the Preparation of a Report on Regional "Hot Spots"	7-9 April Athens	GEF/ UNEP-MEDU	G. Kamizouitis F.S. Civili	Issued by MEDU
Consultation on Trend Monitoring	10-11 April Athens	UNEP-MEDU	G. Gabrielides*	UNEP(OCA)/ MED WG.128/3
Regional Workshop on Applied Systemic and Prospective Tools	28-29 April Algiers	BLUE PLAN (INESG, UNEP-MEDU)	A. Hoballah*	Issued by BP/RAC and INESG

Meeting	Date, Place	Organizer & co-sponsor (co-sponsor in brackets)	Responsible Officer	Report Status
Second Meeting of Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD)	6-8 May Palma de Majorca	UNEP-MEDU	L. Chabason* I. Dharat* A. Hoballah*	UNEP(OCA)/ MED WG.124/5
Meeting of the Bureau (BUR.50)	9 May Palma de Majorca	UNEP-MEDU	L. Chabason I. Dharat	UNEP/BUR/ 50 4
Expert Meeting to adopt Guidelines for Integrated Use, Development and Management of Water Resources	12-14 May Split	PAP/RAC (UNEP-MEDU)	I. Trumbic	PAP-3/97/EM.1
National Training Course for on scene Commanders. Libya	16-21 May Libya	REMPEC (UNEP-MEDU)	J-C Sainlos* D. Momovic*	Issued by REMPEC
National Training Course for on Scene Commanders (Libya)	19-22 May Libya	REMPEC (UNEP-MEDU)	J-C Sainlos* D. Domovic*	Issued by REMPEC
Meeting of MEDPOL Coordinators	20-23 May Delphi (Greece)	UNEP-MEDU	F.S. Civili*	UNEP(OCA)/ MED WG.127/6
Research Training Cruise on Cetaceans	25 May-3 June Ioania sea	SPA/RAC (UNEP-MEDU)	C. Rais	Issued by SPA/RAC
First Meeting of National Focal Points for CP/RAC	9-10 June Barcelona	CP/RAC (UNEP-MEDU)	V. Macià G. Kamizoulis*	UNEP(OCA)/ MED WG.125/8

Meeting	Date, Place	Organizer & co-sponsor (co-sponsor in brackets)	Responsible Officer	Report Status
Meeting of Government-designated Experts to examine a Strategic Action Programme to address Pollution from Land-based Activities	15-18 June Ischia Italy	GEF/ UNEP/MEDU	F.S. Civili*	UNEP(OCA)/ MED WG.130/8
National Training Course (Croatia)	16-18 June Rijeka	REMPEC (UNEP-MEDU)	J-C Sainlos* D. Domovic*	Issued by REMPEC
Meeting of MAP National Focal Points	7-9 July Athens	UNEP-MEDU	L. Chabason I. Dharat	UNEP(OCA)/ MED WG.129/6
Meeting of the Steering Committee for the Oil Pollution Management Project for the South Mediterranean Sea	22-24 July Athens	REMPEC GEF (UNEP-MEDU)	J-C Sainlos*	Issued by REMPEC
Working Group on Sustainable Development Indicators	10-11 July Sophia Antipolis	BLUE PLAN (UNEP-MEDU)	B. Glass A. Hoballah	Issued by BP/RAC
Training Session on Turtle Conservation	24 July-4 Aug. Lara Station Cyprus	SPA/RAC CYPRUS WILDLIFE SOCIETY	M. Saied M. Barbieri	Issued by Cyprus Wildlife Society
Training Session on Turtle Conservation	4-14 August Lara Station Cyprus	SPA/RAC CYPRUS WILDLIFE SOCIETY	M. Saied M. Barbieri	Issued by Cyprus Wildlife Society
Second Meeting of the Steering Group for the GEF Mediterranean Project	8-10 Sept. Athens	UNEP-MEDU (GEF)	F.S. Civili	UNEP(OCA)/ MED WG.135/2

Meeting	Date. Place	Organizer & co-sponsor (co-sponsor in brackets)	Responsible Officer	Report Status
Meeting of Experts on Criteria for the Preparation of Inventories of the Elements of Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean Region	8-10 Sept. Athens	SPA/RAC (UNEP-MEDU)	M. Saied* M. Barbieri*	UNEP(OCA)/ MED WG.131/4
MCSD Workshop on Management of Water Demands	12-13 Sept. Fréjus, France	BLUE PLAN (UNEP-MEDU)	M. Ennabli* A. Hoballah* D. Vallée*	Issued by BP/RAC
Workshop on Sustainable Management on Coastal Zones of the MCSD Working Group	21-23 Sept. Benidorm, Spain	PAP/RAC (UNEP-MEDU) ECO- MEDITER.	I. Trumbic*	Issued by PAP/RAC
National Training Course (Israel)	21-25 Sept. Israel	REMPEC (UNEP-MEDU)	D. Domovic*	Issued by REMPEC
National Training Course in Egypt	22 Sept-2 Oct. Egypt	REMPEC EU (UNEP-MEDU)	D. Domovic*	Issued by REMPEC
Regional Training Course on Mapping of Erosion Processes in Mediterranean Coastal Areas	24-27 Sept. Murcia, Spain	PAP/RAC (UNEP-MEDU) DGCONA FAO	I. Trumbic*	Issued by PAP/RAC
First Meeting of Experts on Liability and Compensation	23-25 Sept. Brijuni, Croatia	UNEP-MEDU	L. Chabason* F.S. Civili*	UNEP(OCA)/ MED WG.117/4
Meeting of Experts to review the MEDPOL Biomonitoring Programme	29 Sept.-1 Oct. Malta	UNEP-MEDU	G.Gabrielides*	UNEP(OCA)/ MED WG.132/7
National Training Course (Cyprus)	29 Sept.-3 Oct. Cyprus	REMPEC (UNEP-MEDU)	D. Domovic*	to be issued by REMPEC
National Training Course (Egypt)	5-9 October Egypt	REMPEC (UNEP-MEDU)	D. Domovic	to be issued by REMPEC

Meeting	Date, Place	Organizer & co-sponsor (co-sponsor in brackets)	Responsible Officer	Report Status
National Training Course in Cyprus	6-10 October Cyprus	REMPEC EU (UNEP-MEDU)	D. Domovic*	to be issued by REMPEC
Second Meeting of Government-designated Experts to examine a Strategic Action Programme to address Pollution from Land-based Activities	13-16 October	GEF/ UNEP-MEDU	F.S. Civili*	to be issued by MEDU
Third Meeting of Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development	28-30 October Sophia Antipolis	UNEP-MEDU (FRANCE)	L. Chabason* I. Dharat* A. Hoballah	to be issued by MEDU
Meeting of the Steering Committee for the Pollution Management Project for the South Mediterranean Sea	30-31 Oct. Oslo	REMPEC GEF (UNEP-MEDU)	D. Domovic*	to be issued by REMPEC
Meeting of the Bureau (BUR/51)	31 October Sophia Antipolis	UNEP-MEDU (FRANCE)	L. Chabason* I. Dharat*	to be issued by MEDU
MEDEXPOL97	October Italy	REMPEC (UNEP-MEDU)	J-C Sainlos* S. Micallef*	to be issued by REMPEC
Regional Training Course on the Integrated Use, Development and Management of Water Resources	3-7 Nov. Malta	PAP/RAC (UNEP-MEDU)	I. Trumbic*	to be issued by PAP/RAC
Expert Meeting to prepare Guidelines for Coastal Urban Master Water Planning	7-8 Nov. Malta	PAP/RAC (UNEP-MEDU)	I. Trumbic*	to be issued by PAP/RAC



Meeting	Date. Place	Organizer & co-sponsor (co-sponsor in brackets)	Responsible Officer	Report Status
Maghreb Seminar on Safety and Environment in Oil Industry	10-11 Nov. Azzawija Libya	REMPEC LIBYANOIL INDUSTRY (UNEP-MEDU)	D. Domovic*	to be issued by REMPEC
Tenth Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention	18-21 Nov. Tunis	UNEP-MEDU (TUNISIA)	L. Chabason* I. Dharat*	to be issued by MEDU
MEDEXPOL97	24-29 Nov. (tentative) Porto Mangheria (Italy)	REMPEC/ ENICHEM (UNEP-MEDU)	J-C Sainlos* S. Micallef*	to be issued by REMPEC
National Training Course on ICAM	November (tentative) Croatia	PAP/RAC (UNEP-MEDU)	I. Trumbic	to be issued by PAP/RAC
National Training Courses in Cyprus, Egypt, Israel	November (tentative)	REMPEC (IMO/EU UNEP-MEDU)	D. Domovic*	to be issued by REMPEC
National Training Course on Environmentally Sound Tourism Planning	November Syria (tentative)	PAP/RAC (UNEP-MEDU)	I. Trumbic*	to be issued by MEDU
Expert Meeting to prepare Guidelines on Integrated River Basin and Coastal Area Management	November (tentative) Rome	PAP/RAC (UNEP-MEDU) UNEP-WATER	I. Trumbic*	to be issued by MEDU
Final Presentation Conference for Fuka-Matrouh CAMP (closing of the project)	Nov.- Dec. Matrouh/ Alexandria (tentative)	UNEP-MEDU (EGYPT)	L. Chabason* I. Dharat* I. Trumbic*	to be issued by MEDU
Training Session on Planning and Control of Public Access to Protected Areas	8-12 December France	SPA/RAC (UNEP-MEDU)	C. Rais*	to be issued by SPA/RAC

Meeting	Date, Place	Organizer & co-sponsor (co-sponsor in brackets)	Responsible Officer	Report Status
Second Meeting on Environmental Performance Indicators	15-17 Dec. Beirut	BLUE PLAN METAP	A. Hoballah*	to be issued by BP/RAC
Meeting of the National Operational Authorities Responsible for Subregional CP (Cyprus, Egypt, Isreal)	16-17 Dec. Cairo	REMPEC (IMO/EU UNEP-MEDU)	J-C Sainlos D. Domovic	to be issued by REMPEC
Working Group on Environmental Statistics and Indicators	18-19 Dec. Beirut	BLUE PLAN UNEP/GRID	A. Hoballah* J-P Giraud*	to be issued by BP/RAC
Regional Training Workshop on application of Guidelines on Integrated Water Management (in French)	December Tunisia (tentative)	PAP/RAC (UNEP-MEDU)	I. Trumbic*	to be issued by PAP/RAC
First Meeting of Regional Experts in the Area of Olive Oil Mills and in the Area of Surface Treatment and Coating Sector	First week of December (tentative) Barcelona	CP/RAC (UNEP-MEDU)	V. Macià G. Kamizoulis*	to be issued by CP/RAC
Regional Workshop on the Evaluation of ICZM Initiatives in the Mediterranean	December Izmir (tentative)	METAP/UNEP-MEDU/ PAP/RAC	L. Chabason* I. Trumbic* M. Hatzios	to be issued by MEDU and METAP
Meeting of Experts on MPLs in sea Food	December Athens (tentative)	UNEP-MEDU (WEO, FAO)	G. Gabrielides G. Kamizoulis	to be issued by MEDU
Meeting of Experts on Caulerpa	December Athens (tentative)	UNEP-MEDU	G. Gabrielides	to be issued by MEDU

Meeting	Date. Place	Organizer & co-sponsor (co-sponsor in brackets)	Responsible Officer	Report Status
XV Meeting of RAC Directors	December Athens (tentative)	UNEP-MEDU RACs	L. Chabason	to be issued by MEDU
Subregional Training Course	December Alexandria	REMPEC (IMO/EU UNEP-MEDU)	D. Domovic	to be issued by REMPEC
Presentation Meeting for Sfax CAMP	December Sfax (Tunisia)	SPA/RAC (UNEP-MEDU)	M. Saied*	to be issued by SPA/RAC
Subregional Training Course	December (tentative)	REMPEC (IMO/EU UNEP-MEDU)	D. Domovic*	to be issued by REMPEC
Donor's Conference on the Implementation of National Action Plans to address Pollution from Land-based Activities	December Athens (tentative)	GEF/ UNEP-MEDU	F.S. Civili	to be issued by MEDU
Meeting of the National Operational Authorities responsible for Subregional CP (Cyprus, Egypt, Israel)	December (tentative)	REMPEC (IMO/EU UNEP-MEDU)	J-C Sainlos* D. Domovic*	to be issued by REMPEC
Seminars Syria	second half 97 Syria	REMPEC (UNEP-MEDU)	J-C Sainlos* D. Domovic*	to be issued by REMPEC
National Training Course	second half 97	REMPEC (UNEP-MEDU)	J-C Sainlos* D. Domovic*	to be issued by REMPEC

## ANNEX III

**STATUS OF SIGNATURES AND RATIFICATIONS OF THE CONVENTION FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE  
MEDITERRANEAN SEA AGAINST POLLUTION AND ITS PROTOCOLS**  
Status as of 30 September 1997

	Convention <sup>1/</sup>		Dumping <sup>2/</sup>		Emergency <sup>3/</sup>		Land-based Sources <sup>4/</sup>		Specially Prot. Areas <sup>5/</sup>		Offshore <sup>6/</sup>		Hazardous Wastes <sup>7/</sup>	
	Sign/re	Ratification	Sign/re	Ratification	Sign/re	Ratification	Sign/re	Ratification	Sign/re	Ratification	Sign/re	Ratification	Sign/re	Ratification
Albania	-	30.5.90/AC	-	30.5.90/AC	-	30.5.90/AC	-	30.5.90/AC	-	30.5.90/AC	-	-	-	-
Algeria	-	16.2.81/AC	-	16.3.81/AC	-	16.3.81/AC	-	2.5.83/AC	-	16.5.85/AC	-	-	01.10.96	-
Bosnia & Herz/vina	-	1.3.92/SUC	-	1.3.92/SUC	-	1.3.92/SUC	-	22.10.94/SUC	-	22.10.94/SUC	-	-	-	-
Croatia	-	8.10.91/SUC	-	8.10.91/SUC	-	8.10.91/SUC	-	12.6.92/SUC	-	12.6.92/SUC	14.10.94	-	-	-
Cyprus	16.2.76	19.11.79/R	16.2.76	19.11.79/R	16.2.76	19.11.79/R	17.5.80	28.6.88/R	-	28.6.88/AC	14.10.94	-	-	-
European Community	13.9.76	16.3.78/AP	13.9.76	16.3.78/AP	13.9.76	12.8.81/AP	17.5.80	7.10.83/AP	30.3.83	30.6.84/AP	-	-	-	-
Egypt	16.2.76	24.8.78/AP	16.2.76	24.8.78/AP	16.2.76	24.8.78/AC	-	18.5.83/AC	16.2.83	8.7.83/R	-	-	01.10.96	-
France	16.2.76	11.3.78/AP	16.2.76	11.3.78/AP	16.2.76	11.3.78/AP	17.5.80	13.7.82/AP	3.4.82	2.9.86/AP	-	-	-	-
Greece	16.2.76	3.1.79/R	11.2.77	3.1.79/R	16.2.76	3.1.79/R	17.5.80	26.1.87/R	3.4.82	26.1.87/R	14.10.94	-	01.10.96	-
Israel	16.2.76	3.3.78/R	16.2.76	1.3.84/R	16.2.76	3.3.78/R	17.5.80	21.2.91/R	3.4.82	28.10.87/R	14.10.94	-	-	-
Italy	16.2.76	3.2.79/R	16.2.76	3.2.79/R	16.2.76	3.2.79/R	17.5.80	4.7.85/R	3.4.82	4.7.85/R	14.10.94	-	01.10.96	-
Lebanon	16.2.76	8.11.77/AC	16.2.76	8.11.77/AC	16.2.76	8.11.77/AC	17.5.80	27.12.94/R	-	27.12.94/AC	-	-	-	-
Libya	31.1.77	31.1.79/R	31.1.77	31.1.79/R	31.1.77	31.1.79/R	17.5.80	6.6.89/AP	-	6.6.89/AC	-	-	01.10.96	-
Malta	16.2.76	30.12.77/R	16.2.76	30.12.77/R	16.2.76	30.12.77/R	17.5.80	2.3.89/R	3.4.82	11.1.88/R	14.10.94	-	01.10.96	-
Monaco	16.2.76	20.9.77/R	16.2.76	20.9.77/R	16.2.76	20.9.77/R	17.5.80	12.1.83/R	3.4.82	29.5.89/R	14.10.94	-	01.10.96	-
Morocco	16.2.76	15.1.80/R	16.2.76	15.1.80/R	16.2.76	15.1.80/R	17.5.80	9.2.87/R	2.4.83	22.6.90/R	-	-	01.10.96	-
Slovenia	-	15.3.94/AC	-	15.3.94/AC	-	15.3.94/AC	-	16.9.93/AC	-	16.9.93/AC	10.10.95	-	-	-
Spain	16.2.76	17.12.76/R	16.2.76	17.12.76/R	16.2.76	17.12.76/R	17.5.80	6.6.84/R	3.4.82	22.12.87/R	14.10.94	-	01.10.96	-
Syria	-	26.12.78/AC	-	26.12.78/AC	-	26.12.78/AC	-	1.12.93/AC	-	11.9.92/AC	20.09.95	-	-	-
Tunisia	25.5.76	30.7.77/R	25.5.76	30.7.77/R	25.5.76	30.7.77/R	17.5.80	29.10.81/R	3.4.82	26.5.83/R	14.10.94	-	01.10.96	-
Turkey	16.2.76	6.4.81/R	16.2.76	6.4.81/R	16.2.76	6.4.81/R	-	21.2.83/AC	-	6.11.86/AC	-	-	01.10.96	-

Ratification: R    Accession: AC    Approval: AP    Succession: SUC

- 1/** Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution  
Adopted (Barcelona): 16 February 1976  
Entry into force: 12 February 1978
- 2/** The Protocol for the Prevention of Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by Dumping from Ships and Aircraft  
Adopted (Barcelona): 16 February 1976  
Entry into force: 12 February 1978
- 3/** The Protocol concerning Co-operation in Combating Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by Oil and other Harmful Substances in cases of Emergency  
Adopted (Barcelona): 16 February 1976  
Entry into force: 12 February 1978
- 4/** The Protocol for the protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution from Land-based Sources  
Adopted (Athens): 17 May 1980  
Entry into force: 17 June 1983
- 5/** The Protocol concerning Mediterranean Specially Protected Areas  
Adopted (Geneva): 3 April 1982  
Entry into force : 23 March 1986
- 6/** 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  
Adopted (Madrid): 14 October 1994  
Entry into force:
- 7/** Protocol on the Prevention of Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by Tranboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal  
Adopted (Izmir): 1 October 1996  
Entry into force: