



United Nations Environment Programme



Distr.
RESTRICTED
UNEP/WG.46/INF.8
12 January 1981
Original: ENGLISH

Meeting of Experts to Evaluate
the Pilot Phase of MED POL and
to Develop a Long-Term Monitoring
and Research Programme for the
Mediterranean Action Plan

Geneva 12-16 January 1981

GREEK CO-ORDINATED RESEARCH PROGRAMME ON SEA WATER POLLUTION (submitted by the Greek focal point for MED POL)

The Greek Government taking into consideration the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols as well as the continuous increase of sea water pollution and its consequent problems arising from it, initiated in March 1980 a programme for researching the pollution levels of the Aegean Sea.

During that first cruise the programme covered many of the parameters which are now presented in the document of UNEP/WG.46/5, 30 October 1980. That Oceanographic cruise, in which several research institutes participated was a preliminary one, in order to test the difficulties arising from it. The data gathered have been treated properly and is going to be submitted to UNEP soon.

The programme is planned to be a long-term one and is also going to fulfill the objectives of MED POL - Phase II for the reference areas. This Greek National Programme which covers all the Aegean Sea can be adjusted according to MED POL - Phase II requirements and the results are going to be submitted to UNEP.

So far the programme covers the monitoring of selected pollutants as presented in paragraphs 18-21 of UNEP/WG.46/4.

The monitoring of the atmosphere was not included in the programme since no air pollution problems have arisen in the area.

However, after the development of the MED POL - Phase II, this can be included in the programme.

It is the intention of the programme to provide an important supplement to that proposed by UNEP and its objectives.

The sampling programme is scheduled to be performed once a year at the stations proposed and a second cruise in the same year is contemplated. The sampling and analytical techniques are those used in MED POL - Phase I, but an adjustment to cover those of MED POL - Phase II can be effected.

All the requirements of our programme are for the time being, covered by Greek Research institutes but the participation of scientists from other countries is also planned. The total costs of the programme in terms of expenses for the research vessel, participation of national experts etc. are covered by the Greek Government. The next cruise is scheduled for the Fall of 1981.