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MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN**

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83<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the Bureau of the Contracting Parties to the  
Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment  
and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean and its Protocols

Tirana, Albania, 25-26 October 2016

**Agenda item 2: Adoption of the Provisional Agenda and Organization of Work**

**Provisional Annotated Agenda**

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## **Provisional Annotated Agenda**

### **Introduction**

1. At the invitation of the Government of Albania and in consultation with the President and members of the Bureau, the 83<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the Bureau of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean and its Protocols will be held in Tirana, Albania on 25-26 October 2016.
2. Documentation will be provided in English and French. As per practice, pre-session documentation will not be distributed on paper. Participants are encouraged to download the documentation on their computers in advance of the session.
3. The following annotations to the Provisional Agenda have been prepared by the Secretariat to assist the meeting in its deliberations.

### **Agenda item 1: Opening of the meeting**

4. The meeting will be opened at 09:30 on 25 October 2016 by Ms. Christina Baritaki, President of the Bureau. The Secretary General of the Ministry of Environment of Albania, Mr. Alqi Bllako, will provide welcoming remarks to participants.

### **Agenda item 2: Adoption of the Provisional Agenda and Organization of Work**

5. The Rules of Procedure for Meetings and Conferences of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and Coastal Region of the Mediterranean and its Protocols will apply *mutatis mutandis* to this meeting.
6. The Provisional Agenda prepared by the Secretariat is contained in document UNEP(DEPI)/MED BUR.83/1/Rev.1.
7. The meeting will review and adopt the Provisional Agenda.
8. It is expected that the Bureau will address all items of the Agenda during its two-day meeting. It is envisaged to close the meeting at 18:00 on 26 October 2016 after adopting its conclusions and recommendations.
9. As per agreed practice and in line with Article VII of the Bureau Terms of Reference, the final edited report of the meeting will be very succinct and will be prepared by the Secretariat and distributed by electronic means to the focal points of the Contracting Parties no later than one month after the meeting.

### **Agenda item 3: Progress Report for the period March-August 2016**

10. Mr. Gaetano Leone, Coordinator, will present the document "Progress report by the Secretariat on the activities carried out for the period March-August 2016" (UNEP(DEPI)/MED BUR.83/3). The document contains also a short section on "Issues at stake for a sound implementation of the 2016-2017 PoW".
11. The Secretariat will also present the updated "Progress report by the Secretariat on the implementation of COP 19 Decisions" (UNEP(DEPI)/MED BUR.83/4).
12. Bureau members are expected to comment on and take note of the progress achieved on the implementation of the activities carried out and advise the Secretariat in accordance with the Terms of Reference of the Bureau.

### **Agenda item 4: Report by the Secretariat on financial and administrative issues**

13. The Secretariat will present to the Bureau members for their comments and recommendations a financial update, as contained in the "Report by the Secretariat on financial and administrative

issues” (UNEP(DEPI)/MED BUR.83/5) addressing the status of contributions, personnel, administrative matters and consultancy reporting.

**Agenda item 5:            Specific Issues**

14.     The Coordinator will present the “Report by the Secretariat on specific issues” (UNEP(DEPI)/MED BUR.83/6).

15.     The Bureau will be invited to exchange views on the following issues:

**5.1.            Governance**

16.     The Coordinator will present an update on issues regarding the status of ratification of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols; a report describing the status of each RAC Host Country Agreement; the amended text of the Bureau TOR with the added compliance criteria in electing the members of the Bureau, for review and further submission to COP 20; and a preliminary analysis of the current status and the options and impacts for a shift to a Thematic Focal Point system for further discussion and guidance.

17.     Furthermore, in relation to reporting and compliance and with reference to the operative paragraphs of Decision IG.22/15 on *Compliance Mechanisms and Procedures, Membership and Working Programme of the Compliance Committee for the Biennium 2016-2017*, and Decision IG.22/16 on *Reporting on the Implementation of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols; and Operational Section of the Reporting Format for the Protocol on the Integrated Coastal Zone Management in the Mediterranean*, the Secretariat will provide an update on the status of reporting on implementation of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols; on the status of implementation of Decision IG. 22/16; and on progress regarding pending nominations of Compliance Committee Members.

18.     Following the request of the 82<sup>nd</sup> Bureau meeting, the Secretariat will update the Bureau on the issue of the letter received on 21 March 2016 from the chairman of the Environment Quality Authority regarding “support to the participation of Palestine in the Barcelona Convention conferences of parties and meetings”. The Bureau will be expected to provide guidance on this issue.

**5.2.            Assessment of MAP II**

19.     At COP 19 (Athens, Greece, February 2016), the Parties decided in favor of the option ii contained in document UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.22/23 on the implementation of decision IG.21/16 on *Assessment of the Mediterranean Action Plan*. The Coordinator presented to the 82<sup>nd</sup> Bureau Meeting the proposed course of action for the implementation of the COP 19 conclusions on this matter for endorsement. The Bureau requested the Secretariat to prepare TORs for the assignment, taking also into account the MSSD, to be shared with the Bureau at its 83<sup>rd</sup> Meeting. The Bureau is expected to provide its guidance.

20.     As agreed at the 82<sup>nd</sup> Bureau Meeting, the Bureau is also expected to nominate one of its members to lead the work of the open-ended Working Group that may be established for this purpose.

**5.3.            Cooperation and Partners**

21.     The Secretariat will update the Bureau on the efforts to contribute to regional governance and cooperation and to enhance the visibility and impact of the UNEP/MAP-Barcelona Convention system.

22.     With reference to the operative paragraphs of Decision IG.22/18 on *Cooperation and Partners*, the Coordinator will update Bureau members on the evaluation of the application by the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) through the Università di Siena (UNISI), for accreditation as UNEP/MAP Partners, for the Bureau’s review and endorsement.

#### **5.4. Outreach, Information and Communication**

23. The Coordinator will present a brief update of the information and communication activities and the further plans for the biennium in this area.
24. The Bureau will be invited to provide its views and considerations on this matter and to advise on how to enhance the visibility and impact of UNEP/MAP – Barcelona Convention.

#### **5.5. Istanbul Environment Friendly City Award**

25. With reference to the operative paragraphs of Decision IG.22/19 on the *Istanbul Environment Friendly City Award*, the Coordinator will present an overview of the progress regarding the finalization of the nomination and selection criteria and template and the proposed plan and process for granting the first Award at COP 20.
26. A proposal for the finalization of the procedure for the nomination and selection criteria will be presented. The Bureau is expected to approve the proposal in order to grant the first Award at COP 20.

#### **5.6. Preparations for COP 20**

27. The Coordinator will present options for the possible theme and outcome of COP 20. He will also update the Bureau on the recent information regarding the dates of UNEA-3 and the possible need to change the dates of COP 20. Bureau members are expected to discuss and provide guidance on the main theme, focus and dates of COP 20.
28. The Bureau member from Albania, host country of COP 20, will provide information on the organization of the event.

#### **5.7. Progress in implementation of the 2016-2017 Programme of Work**

29. The Secretariat will present issues of process and substance related to the implementation of the 2016-2017 Programme of Work, such as the preparation of the 2017 Quality Status Report, the implementation of IMAP, the preparation of the revised Resource Mobilization Strategy and the implementation of MSSD. The Bureau will be invited to express its views on the presentation of the Secretariat.

#### **Agenda item 6: Date and Venue of the 84<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Bureau**

30. The Bureau will be invited to decide on the date and the venue of its 84<sup>th</sup> Meeting. It is recalled that document UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG 22/Inf.17 entitled “Indicative Calendar of Main UNEP/MAP Meetings in the Biennium 2016-2017” and reviewed by COP 19 indicates the date of such meeting as 28-29 June 2017.
31. The updated “Tentative calendar of UNEP/MAP meetings and major international events” is presented in document UNEP(DEPI)/MED BUR.83/Inf.3.

#### **Agenda item 7: Any Other Matters**

32. The Bureau will consider other issues which may be raised by its members.

#### **Agenda item 8: Conclusions and Recommendations**

33. The Secretariat will submit for adoption a set of conclusions and recommendations prepared in accordance with Article VII of the Terms of Reference of the Bureau.

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

34. The meeting is expected to be closed by the President of the Bureau at 18:00 on Wednesday, 26 October 2016.

**TIMETABLE**

<b>Tuesday, 25 October 2016</b>			
<b>Time</b>	<b>Agenda item</b>		<b>Documents</b>
09:30 – 09:45	1. Opening of the meeting 2. Adoption of the Provisional Agenda and organization of work	President of the Bureau	UNEP(DEPI)/MED BUR.83/1/Rev.1 UNEP(DEPI)/MED BUR.83/2
09:45 – 10:30	3. Progress report for the period March-August 2016	Secretariat	UNEP(DEPI)/MED BUR.83/3 UNEP(DEPI)/MED BUR.83/4 UNEP(DEPI)/MED BUR.83/Inf.5
10:30 – 11:30	4. Report by the Secretariat on Financial and Administrative Issues	Secretariat	UNEP(DEPI)/MED BUR.83/5
11:30 – 12:30	5. Specific Issues	Secretariat	UNEP(DEPI)/MED BUR.83/6 UNEP(DEPI)/MED BUR.83/6 UNEP(DEPI)/MED BUR.83/Inf.4 UNEP(DEPI)/MED BUR.83/Inf.6
12:30 – 14:00	<i>Lunch Break</i>		
14:00 – 17:00	5. Specific Issues (cont'd)	Secretariat	UNEP(DEPI)/MED BUR.83/6
<b>Wednesday, 26 October 2016</b>			
09:30 – 10:30	5. Specific Issues (cont'd)	Secretariat	UNEP(DEPI)/MED BUR.83/6
10:30 – 12:30	6. Date and Venue of the 84 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Bureau 7. Any other Matters	Secretariat	UNEP(DEPI)/MED BUR.83/Inf.3
12:30 – 15:00	<i>Extended Lunch break (preparation of the draft list of conclusions and recommendations for adoption)</i>		
15:00 – 17:30	8. Conclusions and recommendations	Secretariat	UNEP(DEPI)/MED BUR.83/7
17:30 – 18:00	9. Closure of the Meeting	President of the Bureau	