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MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN

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Second Meeting of the Regional Cooperation Platform on Marine Litter

Barcelona, Spain, 9-10 November 2017

Agenda item 5: Progress Achieved

Progress Report: Draft Report to be circulated to Partners

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Introduction

1. At the invitation of the UN Environment/Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP), on the 6th September 2016, representatives of 19 organizations¹ from across the Mediterranean Sea, being actively involved on several aspects of marine litter management and assessment, were gathered together in Athens, Greece to participate on a round table discussion entitled “Enhancing Regional Coordination on Marine Litter in the Mediterranean”. The round table aimed at initiating a discussion on the establishment of a partnership for the implementation of the Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean.
2. The main outcome of the round table discussion was the establishment of the Regional Cooperation Platform on Marine Litter in the Mediterranean, which is instrumental in providing coordinated support and guidance to the implementation of the Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean, and a forum for consultation, exchange of good practices, and solutions seeking.
3. The Regional Cooperation Platform on Marine Litter in the Mediterranean is implemented through the establishment, on a voluntary basis, of an open ended group of regional and international partners with mandates and activities contributing to the environmentally sound management of marine litter in the Mediterranean. The cooperation platform offers to its members the opportunity to provide, on an equal footing and as appropriate, concrete contributions and inputs for the implementation of the Regional Plan based on their individual mandates, expertise, work plans, and the decisions and recommendations of their respective governing bodies.
4. The members of the Regional Cooperation Platform on Marine Litter agreed on a joint work plan focusing on the following priorities:
 - a. Review/update of the list of the existing guidelines related to marine litter management;
 - b. Marine litter monitoring and data collection including related information system;
 - c. Capacity Building, Awareness, Educational and Clean up Campaigns; and
 - d. Identification of priority research needs with a focus on implementation of measures.
5. To this extent, the following activities were agreed :
 - a. Review and complete the list of existing guidelines on marine litter management provided under the UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.425/Inf.4 information document and identify the needs for updated and or developing new ones. It has been also agreed to finalize this document by end of September in order to be in a good position to assess together where we stand and what are the needs of the region for new or updated technical marine litter guidelines.
 - b. Support the implementation of marine litter monitoring programmes with a particular focus on regional, sub-regional related activities and corresponding information systems/databases/research needs.
 - c. Promote among respective networks the UNEP/GPA on-line course on marine litter to be available in January-May 2017.
 - d. Work together to ensure large regional/international participation of our networks in a common clean-up campaign in 2017 (exact date and event to be jointly selected among the partners).

¹ ACCOBAMS, GIZ, SDSN-MED, EEA, GFCM, HELMEPA, IWRS, IUCN/ IUCN-MED, JRC/MSFD TG ML, MEDASSET, MEDITS, MIO-ECSDE, PLASTICS EUROPE, SWEEP-NET, UNEP/GPA, WASTE FREE OCEANS. UNEP/MAP Barcelona Convention Secretariat was represented by its Coordinating Unit and the MAP components, MED POL, SCP/RAC and REMPEC.

6. In 2017, additional organizations expressed their interest to participate and to become member to the platform, such as: Secretariat for the Union for the Mediterranean, Institut Français de Recherche pour l'Exploitation de la Mer (IFREMER), Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche (CNR), Foundation Euro-Mediterranean Centre on Climate Change (CMCC).

Progress Achieved in Extroverting the Platform

7. The UN Environment/MAP during the first year of operation of the Regional Cooperation Platform on Marine Litter, focused its work on communicating, disseminating and spreading the word on the Regional Cooperation Platform in order to increase visibility to the platform and maximize its effect. Moreover, the Secretariat has worked in developing and improving the assessment of marine litter and its impacts at regional level.

8. Within the framework of the 2017 Italian Presidency of the G7, the Italian Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea organized a workshop (Rome, Italy, 20-21 April 2017) in collaboration with UN Environment/Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) with the aim of identifying possible way of “Mainstreaming the work of the Regional Seas Programmes towards the better implementation of the G7 Action Plan and the achievement of global commitments on marine litter”.

9. The UN Environment/MAP prepared a background document to provide a global overview of the marine litter issue; and review and analyze the basic elements of the G7 Action Plan in parallel with the current related activities of the Regional Seas Programmes. It aimed at offering a discussion platform on how the current work undertaken by the Regional Seas Programmes could be considered as a practice/model to further implement the G7 Action Plan to Combat Marine Litter.

10. The Mediterranean case was presented in the aforementioned background document as an exemplar model and the Regional Cooperation Platform on Marine Litter in the Mediterranean was showcased as a good example of regional cooperation to maximize results and enhance the impact on marine litter management.

11. The G20 organized a high level conference on Marine Litter in Bremen, Germany (30 May – 01 June 2017), where the G20 Action Plan on Marine Litter was agreed. The UN Environment/MAP Barcelona Convention Secretariat Coordinator, addressed to the delegates of the conference a key-note intervention where the Regional Cooperation Platform on Marine Litter in the Mediterranean was brought to the attention of the participants.

12. In the middle of the year 2017 (5-9 June 2017), UN organized the high-level "The Ocean Conference", Our Oceans Our Future: Partnership for the Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goal 14, in UN headquarters in New York. The Ocean Conference aimed at supporting the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development. In this sense, UN Environment/MAP was asked to prepare a number of concept papers; one of them addressing marine pollution.

13. The Cooperation Platform on Marine Litter in the Mediterranean, has been included in the concept paper (Partnership Dialogue 1: Addressing Marine Pollution), as a good example to build on existing partnerships at regional level. The concept paper can be accessed in the following link: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/14398Partnershipdialogue1.pdf>

14. UN Environment/MAP Barcelona Convention Secretariat also participated in the 2017 “Our Ocean” Conference (Malta, 5-6 October 2017), where important commitments were made, many of

which addressing marine pollution and particularly marine litter (<https://ourocean2017.org/our-ocean-commitments>).

15. The platform has been also brought to the attention of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention, during several UN Environment/MAP meetings:

- a. Meeting of the Ecosystem Approach Correspondence Group on Marine Litter Monitoring (Madrid, Spain, 28 Feb. – 2 Mar. 2017);
- b. Meeting of the MED POL Focal Points (Rome, Italy, 29 – 31 May 2017);
- c. 6th Meeting of the Ecosystem Approach (EcAp) Coordination Group (Athens, Greece, 11 September 2017);
- d. Meeting of the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) Focal Points (Athens, Greece, 12-15 September 2017);

16. The platform has been also brought to the attention of the EU MSFD Technical Group on Marine Litter (TGML) and to other marine litter oriented fora e.g. μMED Conference (Capri, Italy, Sept. 2017), the UN Environment/GPA Global Partnership on Marine Litter (GPML) Steering Committee meetings etc..

Progress Achieved on Marine Litter at Regional Level

17. Furthermore, the following outputs/goals related to marine litter have been achieved by the UN Environment/MAP:

- a. Approved marine litter metadata templates for beach and seafloor marine litter;
- b. Approved marine litter chapters for IMAP common indicators 22 and 23 for the 2017 Mediterranean Quality Status Report (QSR);
- c. Approved marine litter guidance factsheets for IMAP common indicators 22 and 23, and the candidate indicator 24.

18. The MAP Secretariat updated the list of guidelines on marine litter management, as a response to the need for implementation of prevention measures provided for in the Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean (Article 9). The updated list of guidelines on marine litter management can be found in the UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG/446/3.

19. The Programme of Work (PoW) of the UN Environment/MAP for the biennium 2018 – 2019 includes an important number of activities on marine litter aiming at ensuring continuation of the work carried out during the 2016 – 2017 biennium.

20. The EU-funded Marine Litter MED project, implemented and coordinated by UN Environment/MAP covering a period of three years (June 2016 – June 2019) is aiming at:

- a. Assisting the implementation of the Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean at sub-regional levels with a particular focus on the up to five most common Marine Litter measures provided for in the updated National Action Plans (NAPs).
- b. Strengthening the implementation of harmonized approaches at regional and sub-regional level to reduce and prevent marine litter generation from land-based and sea-based sources including pilot preventions;
- c. Assisting the establishment of regional and bilateral cooperation mechanisms with relevant regional actors as well as other European Regional Seas Conventions to enhance synergies for

the implementation of the Marine Litter Action Plans being adopted or in process of preparation, with a particular focus on the collaboration with the Black Sea Commission.

21. The Secretariat has also undertaken important steps for the development of the Mediterranean Node on Marine Litter. The Mediterranean Node aims to support the implementation of the Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean, having the following objectives:

- a. Enhance awareness on marine litter prevention and reduction measures and actions at the regional, national, and local levels;
- b. Strengthen the exchange of information and knowledge, mainly regarding the best practices and measures for prevention and reduction of marine litter in the Mediterranean;
- c. Establish linkages and synergies with the Global Partnership on Marine Litter (GPML); and
- d. Enhance knowledge of GPML among local governments, NGOs/NPOs and local people in the Mediterranean.

Progress Achieved at Global Level

22. UN Environment launched #CleanSeas in February 2017, with the aim of engaging governments, the general public, civil society and the private sector in the fight against marine plastic litter. Over the next five years, the campaign will address the root-cause of marine litter by targeting the production and consumption of non-recoverable and single-use plastic. To do this effectively, citizens need to be aware, engaged and active in addressing the problem in their own lives and beyond. Moreover, hundreds of local organizations who are already doing important work on marine litter, have joint forces with the #CleanSeas campaign to highlight their efforts.

23. The campaign contributes to the goals of the Global Partnership on Marine Litter (GPML), a voluntary open-ended partnership for international agencies, governments, businesses, academia, local authorities and non-governmental organizations hosted by UN Environment.

24. The second Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) on Marine Litter was held from May to August 2017. The course is part of the UN Environment/GPA #CleanSeas campaign and presented different options and tools to combat marine pollution such as the use of effective and legitimate tools like the Honolulu Strategy. The course also provided examples and case studies that can inspire leadership at all levels, thereby increasing awareness of and stimulating creative solutions to marine litter problems.

25. The MOOC was made available in two tracks: a leadership track and an expert track. The Leadership track lasted for approximately two weeks and those who wish remained in the course also for the Expert track.

26. The MAP Secretariat informed all Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention in early May 2017 with a letter signed by the Coordinator of the UN Environment/Barcelona Convention Secretariat. In particular the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) and MED POL Focal Points received this letter along with a request to disseminate the information about MOOC on Marine Litter to their networks and communication channels, inviting them to enroll in the course as appropriate.

27. In addition to the above mentioned progress, the Secretariat is providing an updated status of implementation of the Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean, including a work plan and a timetable (Annex I to the present report,). The work plan was reviewed by the members of the Regional Cooperation Platform on Marine Litter during its first meeting (Athens,

Greece, 6 Sept. 2016) and are also invited during the second meeting to fill in their possible contribution, on an individual basis.

**Status of Implementation
of the Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean**

Work Plan with Timetable for the Implementation of relevant Articles of the Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean:

| | Article | Task | Timetable | Lead Authority | Verification indicator | Status of Implementation | Possible contribution by the members of the Regional Cooperation Platform |
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| PART II - MEASURES AND OPERATIONAL TARGETS | | | | | | | |
| 1. | Art. 7 - Integration of marine litter measures into the LBS National Action Plans (LBS NAPs) | Update the existing LBS National Action Plan guidelines | 2014 | MEDPOL, in consultation with regional and international organizations | Guidelines sent to Contracting Parties | Completed | |
| 2. | | Update the existing LBS National Action Plans to integrate marine litter in accordance with the provisions of the Regional Plan National Stakeholder Workshop and consultancy | 2015 | Contracting Party, in consultation with MEDPOL | Updated LBS National Action Plan sent to the Secretariat | Completed | |
| 3. | | Development of reporting format | 2014 | MEDPOL, in consultation with regional and international organizations | Reporting format sent to countries | | |
| 4. | | National reports on the implementation of the Regional Plan | Biennially, together with the report for the implementation of the LBS protocol | Contracting Party | Report sent to Secretariat | Ongoing | |

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| 5. | Art. 9 – Prevention of marine litter | To base urban solid waste management on reduction at source, applying the following waste hierarchy as a priority order in waste prevention and management legislation and policy: prevention, preparing for re-use, recycling, other recovery, e.g. energy recovery and environmentally sound disposal | 2025 | Contracting Party, in cooperation with the SCP/RAC and MED POL | Report sent to Secretariat | Planned | |
| 6. | | Implement adequate waste reducing/reusing/ recycling measures in order to reduce the fraction of plastic packaging waste that goes to landfill or incineration without energy recovery | 2019 | Contracting Party, in cooperation with SCP/RAC | Report sent to Secretariat | Planned | |
| 7. | | Explore and implement to the extent possible prevention measures related to Extended Producer Responsibility strategy by making the producers, manufacturer brand owners and first importers responsible for the entire life-cycle of the product with measures prioritizing the hierarchy of waste management in order to encourage companies to design products with long durability for reuse, recycling and materials reduction in weight and toxicity | 2017 | Contracting Party, in cooperation with SCP/RAC | Report sent to Secretariat | Pilots are planned in 2017-2018 in the framework of the Marine Litter MED project | |
| 8. | | Explore and implement to the extent possible prevention measures related to Sustainable Procurement Policies contributing to the promotion of the consumption of recycled plastic-made products | 2017 | Contracting Party, in cooperation with SCP/RAC | Report sent to Secretariat | Ongoing | |
| 9. | | Explore and implement to the extent possible prevention measures related to establishment of voluntary agreements with retailers and supermarkets to set an objective of reduction of plastic bags | 2017 | Contracting Party, in cooperation with SCP/RAC | Report sent to Secretariat | Ongoing | |

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| | | consumption as well as selling dry food or cleaning products in bulk and refill special and reusable containers | | | | | |
| 10. | | Explore and implement to the extent possible prevention measures related to fiscal and economic instruments to promote the reduction of plastic bag consumption | 2017 | Contracting Party, in cooperation with SCP/RAC | Report sent to Secretariat | Pilots are planned in 2018 in the framework of the Marine Litter MED project | |
| 11. | | Explore and implement to the extent possible prevention measures related to establishment of [mandatory] Deposits, Return and Restoration System for expandable polystyrene boxes in the fishing sector | 2017 | Contracting Party, in cooperation with SCP/RAC | Report sent to Secretariat | Ongoing | |
| 12. | | Explore and implement to the extent possible prevention measures related to establishment of [mandatory] Deposits, Return and Restoration System for beverage packaging prioritizing when possible their recycling | 2017 | Contracting Party, in cooperation with SCP/RAC | Report sent to Secretariat | Ongoing | |
| 13. | | Explore and implement to the extent possible prevention measures related to establishment of procedures and manufacturing methodologies together with plastic industry, in order to minimize the decomposition characteristics of plastic, to reduce microplastic | 2017 | Contracting Party, in cooperation with SCP/RAC | Report sent to Secretariat | Ongoing | |
| 14. | | Take necessary measures to establish as appropriate adequate urban sewer, wastewater treatment plants, and waste management systems to prevent run-off and riverine inputs of litter | 2020 | Contracting Party, in cooperation with MEDPOL | Report sent to Secretariat | Ongoing | |
| 15. | | In accordance with Article 14 of the Prevention and Emergency Protocol explore and implement to the extent possible ways and means to charge reasonable cost for the use of port reception facilities or when applicable, apply No-Special-Fee system | 2017 | Contracting Party, in cooperation with REMPEC | Report sent to Secretariat | Preliminary work will be implemented in 2018 in the framework of the Marine Litter MED project | |

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| | | and take the necessary steps to provide ships using their ports with updated information relevant to the obligation arising from Annex V of MARPOL Convention and from their legislation applicable in the field | | | | | |
| 16. | | Explore and implement to the extent possible the “Fishing for Litter” environmentally sound practices, in consultation with the competent international and regional organizations, to facilitate cleanup of the floating litter and the seabed from marine litter caught incidentally and/or generated by fishing vessels in their regular activities including derelict fishing gears | 2017 | Contracting Party, in cooperation with MEDPOL | Report sent to Secretariat | SSFAs in place with 5 Contracting Parties | |
| 17. | | Explore and implement to the extent possible “Gear marking to indicate ownership” concept and “reduced ghost catches through the use of environmentally neutral upon degradation of nets, pots and traps concept”, in consultation with the competent international and regional organizations in the fishing sector | 2017 | Contracting Party, in cooperation with MEDPOL | Report sent to Secretariat | Ongoing | |
| 18. | | Apply the cost effective measures to prevent any marine littering from dredging activities taking into account the relevant guidelines adopted in the framework of Dumping Protocol of the Barcelona Convention | 2020 | Contracting Party, in cooperation with MEDPOL | Report sent to Secretariat | Ongoing | |
| 19. | | Take the necessary measures to close to the extent possible the existing illegal dump sites on land in the area of the application of the Regional Plan | 2020 | Contracting Party, in cooperation with MEDPOL | Report sent to Secretariat | Ongoing | |

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| 20. | | Take enforcement measures to combat illegal dumping in accordance with national legislation including littering on the beach, illegal sewage disposal in the coastal zone and rivers in the area of the application of the Regional Plan | | Contracting Party, in cooperation with MEDPOL | Report sent to Secretariat | Ongoing | |
| 21. | Art. 10 – Removing existing marine litter and its environmental sound disposal | Where it is environmentally sound and cost effective, remove existing accumulated litter, subject to EIA procedure, in particular from specially protected areas and Specially Protected Areas of Mediterranean Importance (SPAMI) and litter impacting endangered species listed in Annexes II and III of the SPA and Biodiversity Protocol | 2019 | Contracting Party, in cooperation with MEDPOL and SPA/RAC | Report sent to Secretariat | Plan for 2018 in the framework of the Italian Cooperation Agreement | SDSN-MED through the Plastic Busters project (WP2 and WP3 activities) |
| 22. | | Explore and implement to the extent possible the identification in collaboration with relevant stakeholders accumulations / hotspots of marine litter and implementation of national programmes on their regular removal and sound disposal | 2019 | Contracting Party, in cooperation with MEDPOL | Report sent to Secretariat | A risk assessment tool in under development in the framework of the Marine Litter MED project | SDSN-MED through the Plastic Busters project (WP2 and WP3 activities) |
| 23. | | Explore and implement to the extent possible the implementation of the National Marine Litter Cleanup Campaigns on a regular basis | 2019 | Contracting Party, in cooperation with MEDPOL | Report sent to Secretariat | Ongoing | |
| 24. | | Explore and implement to the extent possible the participation in International Coastal Cleanup Campaigns and Programmes | 2019 | Contracting Party, in cooperation with MEDPOL | Report sent to Secretariat | Ongoing | |
| 25. | | Explore and implement to the extent possible the application as appropriate Adopt-a-Beach or similar practices and enhance public participation role with regard to marine litter management | 2019 | Contracting Party, in cooperation with MEDPOL | Report sent to Secretariat | SSFAs with 9 Contracting Parties (Marine Litter MED – Italian Cooperation Agreement) | |
| 26. | | Explore and implement to the extent possible the application of the Fishing for | 2019 | Contracting Party, in | Report sent to Secretariat | SSFAs with 5 Contracting Parties | SDSN-MED through the Plastic |

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| | | Litter practices, in consultation with the competent international and regional organizations and in partnership with fishermen and ensure adequate collection, sorting and/or environmentally sound disposal of the fished litter | | cooperation with MEDPOL | | | Busters project (WP3 activities) |
| 27. | | Explore and implement to the extent possible charging reasonable costs for the use of port reception facilities or, when applicable application of No-Special-Fee system, in consultation with competent international and regional organizations when using port reception facilities for implementing the measures provided for in Article 10. | 2019 | Contracting Party, in cooperation with REMPEC | Report sent to Secretariat | Work planned for 2017-2018 in the framework of the Marine Litter MED project | |
| PART III – ASSESSMENT | | | | | | | |
| 28. | Art. 11 – Assessment of marine litter in the Mediterranean | Assessment of marine litter in the Mediterranean | Every six years, first report 2 years after entry into force of the Regional Plan | MEDPOL | Report issued | 2015 Marine Litter Assessment in the Mediterranean | |
| 29. | Art. 12 – Mediterranean Marine Litter Monitoring Programme | Establishment of an Expert Group on Regional Marine Litter Monitoring Programme | 2014 | MEDPOL | Expert Group established | Established Informal Online Working Group on Marine Litter | |
| 30. | | Guidelines for the preparation of the National Marine Litter Monitoring Programmes, in collaboration with the relevant international and regional organizations | 2014 | MEDPOL, in consultation with regional and international organizations | Guidelines prepared | Completed (In 2017: approved metadata templates for beach and seafloor marine litter) | |

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| 31. | | Preparation of the Regional Marine Litter Monitoring Programme, as part of the integrated regional monitoring programme ² | | MEDPOL, in consultation with regional and international organizations | Regional Marine Litter Monitoring Programme prepared | Completed (In 2017: approved metadata templates for beach and seafloor marine litter) | |
| 32. | | For the purpose of the Regional Plan and in compliance with the monitoring obligations under Article 12 of the Barcelona Convention and Article 8 of the LBS Protocol design National Monitoring Programme on Marine Litter | 2017 | Contracting Party, in consultation with MEDPOL | Implementation started | Ongoing | |
| 33. | | Report, in accordance with Article 13 of the LBS Protocol, on the implementation of the National Marine Litter Monitoring Programme | Biennially | Contracting Party | Report sent to the Secretariat | Ongoing | |
| 34. | | Establishment of the Regional Data Bank on Marine Litter | 2016 | MEDPOL, in consultation with regional and international organizations | Data Bank established | Analysis of State of Play (In 2017: approved metadata templates for beach and seafloor marine litter) | |
| PART IV - SUPPORT TO IMPLEMENTATION | | | | | | | |
| 35. | Art. 13 – Research topics and scientific cooperation | Assistance for scientific cooperation | As appropriate | MEDPOL, SCP/RAC, REMPEC, SPA/RAC, in consultation with regional and international organizations | Assistance provided | A priority list decided by COP 18 and may require further prioritization. 2015 Mediterranean Assessment on Marine Litter (Chapter 6) | SDSN-MED through the Plastic Busters project (WP2 activities in the identification of hot spot areas, effect on bioindicator species and fisheries resources) |

² In line with EcAp timeline

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| 36. | Art. 14 – Specific guidelines | Preparation of specific guidelines for measures listed in Articles 9 and 10 of the Regional Plan | By 2016/2017 | MEDPOL, SCP/RAC, REMPEC, SPA/RAC, in consultation with regional and international organizations | Guidelines published | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - FfL Guidelines; - List of Existing Guidelines Identified (2017, 2018);List of Potential Guidelines to be Explored. - Guidelines planned to be drafted in the framework of the Marine Litter MED project for: i) Adopt-a-beach, ii) prevention in generation of plastics and wastes ending up as marine litter, iii) port reception facilities and the delivery of ship-generated wastes | SDSN-MED through the Plastic Busters project (WP2 and WP4 activities) |
| 37. | Art. 15 - Technical assistance | Technical assistance, including capacity building provided | As appropriate | MEDPOL, SCP/RAC, REMPEC, SPA/RAC, in consultation with regional and international organizations | Report sent to Secretariat | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regional Actions Undertaken (Tirana, Albania, 19-20 July 2016; Athens, Greece, 6 Sept. 2016); - 1st Mtg of the Regional Cooperation Platform on Marine Litter - New Activities to be identified by the partners. | SDSN-MED through the Plastic Busters project (WP2, WP3 and WP4 activities) |
| 38. | Art. 16 – Enhancement of public awareness and education | Undertaking, where appropriate in synergy with existing initiatives in the field of education for sustainable development and in partnership with civil society, public awareness and education activities with adequate duration and follow up, with regard to marine litter management | As appropriate | Contracting Party, in consultation with MEDPOL | Report sent to Secretariat | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Marine Litter side event at COP 19; - Marine Litter side event for the Mediterranean at UNEA 2. | SDSN-MED through the Plastic Busters project (WP5 activities) |

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| | | including activities related to prevention and promotion of sustainable consumption and production | | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Marine Litter side event at COP 20 - MOOC on Marine Litter: 2016, 2017 | |
| 39. | Art. 17 – Major groups and stakeholder participation | Ensure appropriate involvement of various stakeholders including local authorities, civil society, private sector and other stakeholders as appropriate to implement the measures provided for in the Regional Plan and other measures | As appropriate | Contracting Party, in consultation with MEDPOL | Report sent to Secretariat | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 6 Sept. 2016: Establishment of the Regional Cooperation Platform on Marine Litter in the Mediterranean; Elements and proposal for a joint Work Plan and priorities in 2017. - Proposal for a joint 2018 work plan. | - |
| 40. | Art. 18 – Regional and international cooperation | Establishment of institutional cooperation with various relevant regional and global institutions and initiatives | As appropriate | MEDPOL in cooperation with, SCP/RAC, REMPEC AND SPA/RAC And other regional partners | Report on the implementation of the Regional Plan by the Secretariat | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 6 Sept. 2016: Establishment of the Regional Cooperation Platform on Marine Litter in the Mediterranean; - Elements and Proposal for a joint Work Plan in 2017. - Proposal for a joint 2018 work plan. - Development of the Mediterranean Node on Marine Litter in the Mediterranean (2017-2018). | SDSN-MED through the Plastic Busters project (WP4 activities) |
| 41. | | Direct cooperation of Contracting Parties, with assistance of the MEDPOL or competent international and regional | As appropriate | Contracting Parties with | Report sent to Secretariat | Partners to provide feedback on any | SDSN-MED through the Plastic Busters project |

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| | | organizations, to address trans-boundary marine litter cases | | assistance of the MEDPOL | | collaboration with the Contracting Parties. | |
| 42. | Art. 19 – Reporting | National biennial reports on the implementation of the Regional Plan | Biennially | Contracting Party, in consultation with MEDPOL | Report issued | - Expected in 2017; Reporting format under preparation. | - |
| 43. | | Regional report on the implementation of the Regional Plan | Biennially | MEDPOL, SCP/RAC, REMPEC, SPA/RAC, in consultation with regional and international organizations | Report issued | - Expected in 2017; Reporting format under preparation | |
| 44. | | Review the status of the implementation of the Regional Plan | Biennially | MEDPOL, SCP/RAC, REMPEC, SPA/RAC, in consultation with regional and international organizations | | - Expected in 2017; Reporting format under preparation | SDSN-MED through the Plastic Busters project (WP4 activities). |