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## INTRODUCTION

1. At their Extraordinary Meeting (Montpellier, 1-4 July 1996), the Contracting Parties approved the Terms of Reference as well as the Composition of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSO)(UNEP(OCA)/MED IG.8/7). Moreover, the Meeting authorised the Bureau of the Contracting Parties to make the first selection of the members of the Commission from the three groups representing the local authorities, socio-economic actors and Environmental NGO's.
2. It should also be noted that the first meeting of the Commission will be held in Rabat (Morocco), on 16-18 December 1996, upon an invitation from the President of the Bureau.
3. Concerning the selection exercise, the Bureau at its last meeting (Athens, 4-5 November 1996) made the selection of 11 members from the 3 groups, other than those of the Contracting Parties, on the basis of the selection criteria approved by the Contracting Parties and the list of candidatures received as at 3 November 1996 from the Contracting Parties and from the various organisations.
4. The present "Introductory Report by the Secretariat" is intended to assist the meeting in its work in identifying the methods of future work of the Commission and the priority fields of activities for environment and sustainable development in the Mediterranean region, on the basis of Agenda MED 21, MAP Phase II and the relevant decisions of the Contracting Parties.
5. The Introductory Report is divided into four sections dealing with a historical background, major problems of sustainable development in the Mediterranean, priority fields of activities and proposals on the future methods of work and selection of priority fields of the Commission.

## I. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION

1. The United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED, 3-14 June 1992), adopted various important decisions including Agenda 21, which is considered as a basic framework and a guide for the world community to deal with environment and development in an integrated, comprehensive and balanced manner for the benefit of the present and future generations.
2. Chapter 38 of Agenda 21 entitled "International Institutional Arrangements", contains a set of important recommendations on institutional arrangements to follow up the Conference, particularly those on the establishment of a high-level Commission on Sustainable Development.
3. Chapter 38 of Agenda 21 reaffirmed the mandate of the United Nations Environment programme (UNEP) and the general direction of the efforts pursued in the environment programme, and affirmed also that regional and sub-regional co-operation would be an important part of the Conference outcome, particularly in promoting regional and sub-regional capacity building and promoting the integration of environmental concerns in regional and sub-regional development policies, as well as in helping Governments to take co-ordinated action in solving environment issues of regional significance.
4. At its Forty-Seventh Session (September - December 1992), the General Assembly of the United Nations considered the report of UNCED and decided, by its resolution 47/190, *inter alia* to establish a United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development (UNCSD) as a functional Commission of the Economic and Social Council, in order to ensure the effective follow-up of the UNCED Conference, as well as to enhance International Co-operation and rationalise the intergovernmental decision-making capacity for the integration of environment and development issues and to examine the progress of the implementation of Agenda 21 at the national, regional and international levels, in order to achieve sustainable development in all countries.
5. Based on the above mentioned considerations, and aiming at making MAP actions more conducive to sustainable development, the Ministerial Conference "Agenda MED 21" on Sustainable Development in the Mediterranean, held in Tunis, on 1 November 1994, which was attended by Mediterranean Coastal States, the European Community, and several international organisations, determined to strengthen regional partnership and solidarity and to give full effect to, and ensure the total respect for the implementation at the Mediterranean level of the recommendations of the UNCED Conference.

6. As a starting point, the Tunis Conference decided to develop a Mediterranean strategy including objectives and a calendar of actions, through an Agenda MED 21 and the priorities set up by the Contracting Parties, and agreed in this context on the principle of setting up a Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD) within the framework of the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) to monitor and review the implementation of this strategy.
7. In order to initiate this process, the Conference invited the Bureau of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention and the Coordinating Unit of the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) to prepare concrete suggestions on the Commission's terms of reference, while bearing in mind the activities and the mandate of other inter-governmental and regional organisations, notably the important role of the European Community in promoting sustainable development in the Mediterranean region through its various environment and development programmes.
8. At the Ninth Ordinary Meeting (Barcelona, 5-8 June 1995), the Contracting Parties integrated the concept of sustainable development in the main instruments of MAP and decided to create a Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD) within the framework of MAP, and requested the Secretariat to prepare its Terms of Reference and submit them to the meeting of the Contracting Parties for adoption. Moreover, the Meeting decided to convene the first meeting of the Commission by the first half of 1996 at the latest, in order to prepare its programme and to consider organisational matters (UNEP(OCA)/MED IG.5/16).
9. The Euro-Mediterranean Conference at Barcelona in November 1995 encouraged the taking into consideration of sustainable development for the whole of the Mediterranean Basin, both in terms of policies adopted by the States and at the level of international cooperation.
10. On the basis of the decisions of the Bureau of the Contracting Parties (Rabat, 9-10 November 1995 and Cairo, 1-2 April 1996), and on the basis of the written and verbal comments and the Secretariat initiative, the draft Terms of Reference was reviewed and a concrete proposal concerning the Terms of Reference of the Commission and of its composition was submitted to the Extraordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties (Montpellier, 1-4 July 1996), which were, subsequently, approved by the Meeting (UNEP(OCA)/MED IG.8/7), (see Annexes I and II of the present document).
11. As for the first meeting of the Commission, the Bureau at its Cairo meeting (1-2 April 1996), accepted the offer of Morocco to host the first meeting in Morocco during December 1996. Spain also offered to cooperate in the organisation of this meeting. After consultation with the Bureau of the Contracting Parties and the host country (Morocco), the first meeting of the Commission will be held in Rabat on 16 to 18 December 1996.

## II. MAJOR PROBLEMS OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION<sup>1</sup>

1. On the basis of the definition of the concept by the United Nations (Brundtland and FAO reports), i.e. "Sustainable development is that development which respects the environment, is technologically appropriate, economically viable and socially acceptable which meets the needs of present generations, without compromising the potential of future generations to meet theirs",

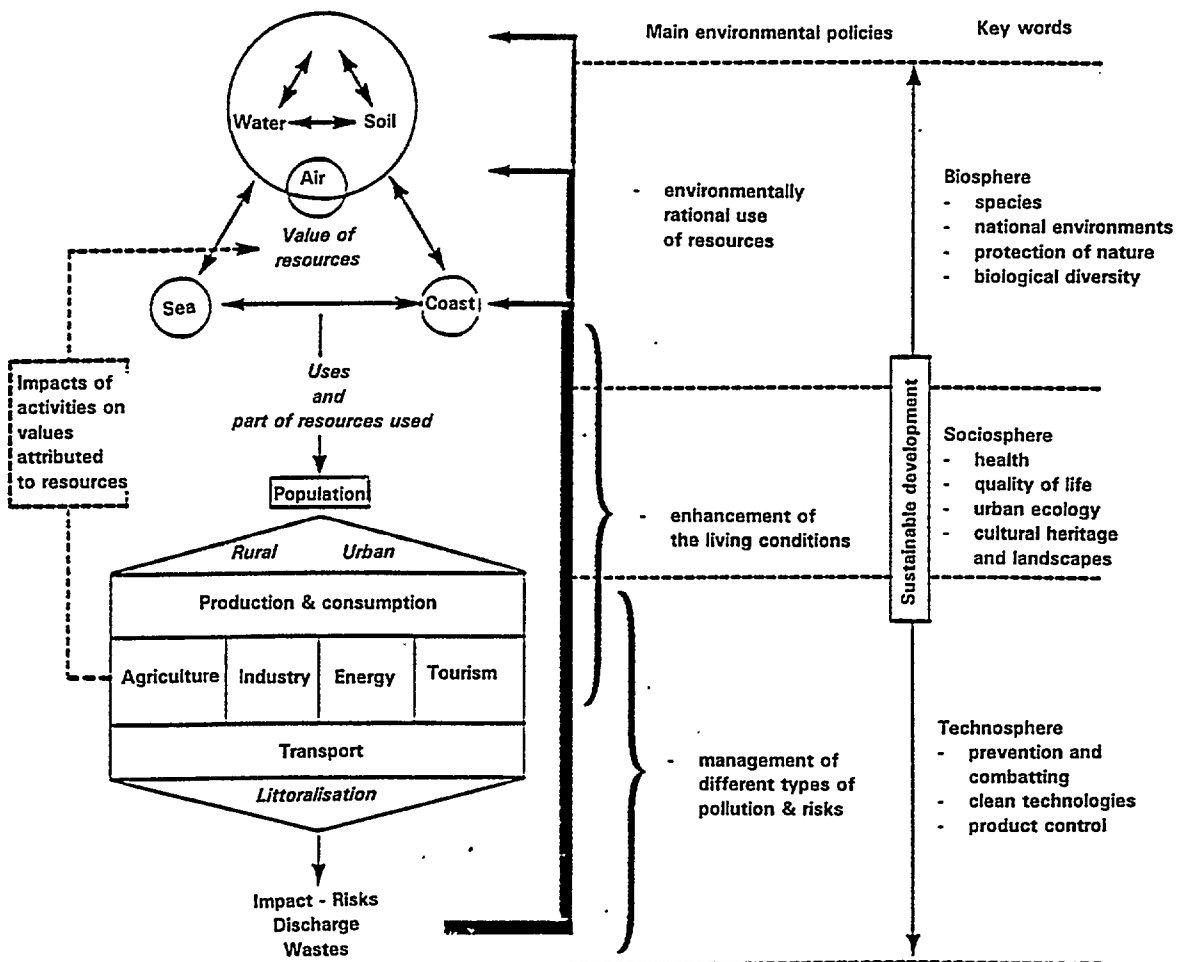
The current and future problems connected with sustainable development in the Mediterranean region are linked with the following three major areas:

- social equality for the peoples of the Mediterranean whose numbers are rapidly increasing, with very different levels and living conditions;
  - economic effectiveness without compromising the natural factors that affect it; and
  - environmental integrity in the management of the natural environment, the living framework, the types of pollution and risks involved.
2. The problems and how they are approached are very complex. And even though visualisation of all kinds simplifies and does not do justice to reality in all its facets. Two references are proposed in order to highlight those problems which seem to be the most serious for the Mediterranean Basin.
  3. The first, through a diagram, establishes the links between environment and development; the population is at the centre of the system and the environmental policies which are followed or are likely to be followed are defined in terms of the impact of economic development on them.

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<sup>1</sup> As they emerge from the work of the Blue Plan

Links between components of the environment and development activities ↔ scope of sustainable development



The above diagram highlights the links between the various environmental components, development activities and major environmental policies, *inter alia*: rational use of biosphere resources, enhancement of living conditions and the management of types of pollution and risks. A system of sustainable development would impact on all three areas (biosphere, sociosphere and technosphere).

- The second visualisation aims at identifying, in a perspective of sustainable development, the impact of human activities on the environment and *vice versa*, the impact of environmental degradation society (looping), the positive and/or negative environmental interactions and finally the natural resources and habitats.

Pressure of human activities on the environment

Environment	Forest	Soil	Water <sup>1</sup>	Biodiversity	Air	Coast	Marine resources
<b>Socio-economics</b>							
<b>Population</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Overconsumption of firewood</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Increasing demand for food</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Demand for drinking water</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Fauna is disturbed</li> <li>- Resources used</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Discharge of domestic pollutants (CO<sub>2</sub> - SO<sub>2</sub>)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Demand for urban habitats</li> </ul>	
<b>Urbanisation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Extension of build-up areas</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Loss of productivity through covering soils with concrete</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Heavy consumption of urban water</li> <li>- Losses in distribution system</li> <li>- Organic pollution</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Destruction or fragmentation of habitats</li> <li>- Artificialisation of environment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Concentration of pollutants</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Concentration of living and various activities (littoralisation phenomenon)</li> </ul>	
<b>Agriculture and Food Industry</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Excessive grazing</li> <li>- Extension of cultivated area</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Chemical degradation (fertilisers, irrigation)</li> <li>- Increased water and wind erosion</li> <li>- Destruction</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Excessive irrigation</li> <li>- Chemical pollution of underground aquifers (fertilisers) and eutrophication of aquatic environments</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Excessive grazing</li> <li>- Replacement of traditional varieties with enhanced varieties</li> <li>- Banalisation of ecosystems</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Discharge of greenhouse gas (CH<sub>4</sub>)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Changes in land use (clearing, drainage etc)</li> </ul>	
<b>Industry</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Excessive use of forest resources</li> <li>- Acid rain</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Loss of productive soils</li> <li>- Chemical contamination</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Concentration of types of production that are heavy users of water</li> <li>- Concentration of polluting activities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Contamination of ecosystems</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Discharge of pollutants (SO<sub>2</sub> - NO<sub>x</sub>)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Use of available space</li> <li>- Altering the landscape</li> </ul>	

<sup>1</sup> This component is both quantitative and qualitative, and the two aspects are interconnected.



Environment	Forest	Soil	Water <sup>1</sup>	Biodiversity	Air	Coast	Marine resources
<b>Socio-economics</b>							
<b>Energy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Excessive use of resources</li> <li>- Acid rain</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Construction of dams</li> <li>- Cooling water for power plants</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Discharge from heating of homes</li> <li>- Discharges from thermal power plants</li> </ul>		
<b>Transport</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Acid rain</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Loss of productivity through infrastructures</li> <li>- Chemical contamination</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Chemical pollution</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Partitioning of ecosystems</li> <li>- Contamination of ecosystems</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Discharge of No<sub>x</sub></li> <li>- CO</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Concentration of infrastructures</li> <li>- Altering the landscape</li> </ul>
<b>Tourism</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Fires</li> <li>- Crowding</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Loss of productivity through infrastructures</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Organic pollution</li> <li>- Seasonal water demand</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Increased number of visitors in natural sites</li> <li>- Tramping underfoot</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- More pronounced littoralisation</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> This component is both quantitative and qualitative, since the two aspects are interconnected.

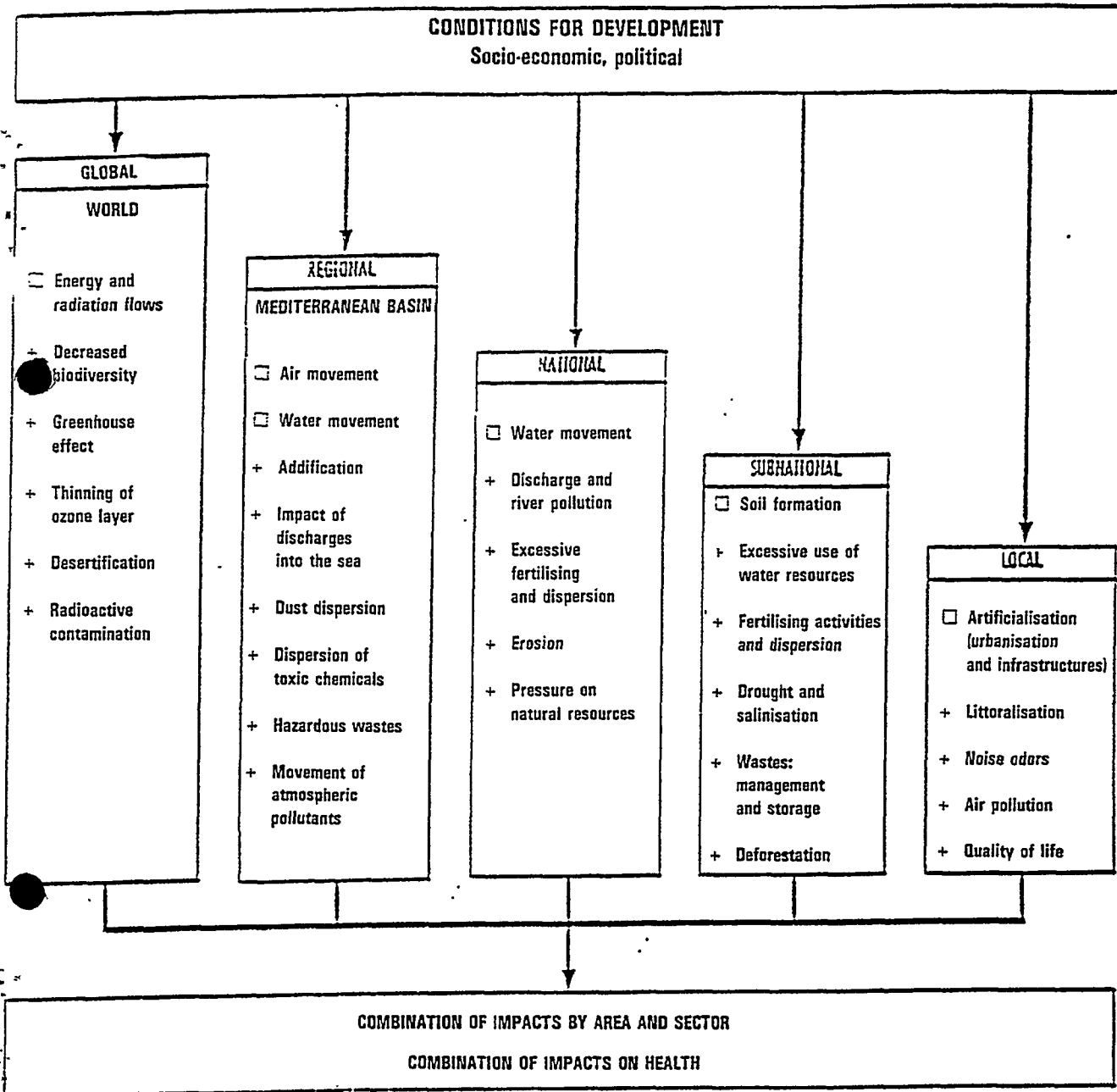
Pressure of environmental degradation on the sociosphere

Environment	Forests	Soils	Water	Biodiversity	Air	Coast
<b>Socio-economics</b>						
<b>Health/population</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Increasing cost of firewood</li> <li>- Accidents connected with fires</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Contamination of foodstuffs</li> <li>- Pathologic related to pesticides</li> <li>- Increased damages related to natural catastrophes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Health problems related to water contamination</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Loss of amenities related to the disappearance of ecosystems and/or landscapes</li> <li>- Loss of heritage related to the disappearance of species</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Pathologies of the respiratory system</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Excessive population density causing violence and stress</li> </ul>
<b>Urbanisation</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Leaving degraded areas</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Increased rehabilitation costs</li> <li>- Increased water costs</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Degradation of monuments and installations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Degradation of living framework</li> </ul>
<b>Agriculture and Food Industry</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Having to buy fuddled live-stock</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Decreased fertility and yield of crops</li> <li>- Increased cost of land use</li> <li>- Rehabilitation cost for degraded land</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Costs for changes to the irrigation and drainage systems</li> <li>- Increased water prices</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Decreased resistance to diseases of cultivated varieties and races of animals raised</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Product contamination</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Speculation on farm land</li> <li>- Disappearance of traditional farming</li> </ul>
<b>Industry</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Increased costs of wood manufacturing and derivative products</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Rehabilitation costs</li> <li>- Contaminated soils</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Increased manufacturing costs related to increased water prices</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Installation corrosion</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Increased industrial concentration</li> </ul>
<b>Energy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Increased cost of firewood</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Decreased life cycle for dams</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Costs of the distribution network</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Corrosion of electricity lines</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Reinforcement of energy potential</li> </ul>

Environment	Forests	Soils	Water	Biodiversity	Air	Coast
<b>Socio-economics</b>						
<b>Transport</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Costs for removal of sediments from shipping lanes and networks</li> </ul>				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Congested infrastructure</li> </ul>
<b>Tourism</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Impact on leisure activities (hunting, hiking)</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Impact on leisure activities (lakes and watercourses)</li> <li>- Loss of comfort due to consumption restrictions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Losses related to degradation of natural sites</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Loss of visits</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Fewer visits</li> </ul>



Space scales of some environmental problems (after RIVM, 1989)



: Physical characteristics

+ : Environmental problems

Finally the analysis of the problems also includes socio-economic cultural and political parameters which affect development at the level of the Mediterranean region, most specially those related to the internationalisation of markets and the setting up of a Euro-Mediterranean zone of free trade, as well as those connected with changes in patterns of consumption. The trends determined by such external forces offer an essential vantage point for assessing the situation in its various expressions.

5. MAP Phase II has refocussed its activities to conform with the Rio Declaration (1992) and the Agenda MED 21 reviewed by the Ministerial Conference on Sustainable Development in the Mediterranean (Tunis 1994); it deals not only with problems of the marine environment but also with the set of problems of sustainable development for coastal areas. The turning towards a global and integrated approach confirms the necessity for a working framework both systemic as outlined above and targeted to the priority problems of the Mediterranean Basin, already identified in the first 20 years of MAP's existence.
6. Dealing with the concerns most important for the sustainable development of the Mediterranean region is based on the analyses and assessments carried out by BP/RAC in conjunction with the other MED POL and Regional Activity Centres. The relevant data has been produced by coastal states and/or international organisations; the collection has often been carried out on the basis of geographical and/or sectoral entities, in order to highlight better a specific situation or perspective which is of interest to the whole or part of the Mediterranean Basin without focusing on specific countries.
7. Two essential problems have an impact on sustainable development in the Mediterranean region and conservation of the Mediterranean, a good jointly owned by all which is affected centrifugally and centripetally by:
  - the demographic pressure, the explosion of urbanisation and the socio-economic risks;
  - the vulnerability and limits of the natural heritage, both as a base and a factor of development;

To these, a third one must be added, i.e:

- the potential for sustainable development.

## II.1 Demographic pressure, explosion of urbanisation and socio-economic risks

8. On the basis of the types of development envisaged in the Blue Plan scenarios, the population of the countries around the Mediterranean basin which is today about 400 million, will reach in 2025 between 520 and 570 million. The countries of the northern rim, from Spain to Greece will account in 2025 for only one third of the total, *vis à vis* the two thirds in 1950 and approximately the half which they represent today. Inversely, the countries of the South and East of the Basin, from Morocco to Turkey will account in 2025 for two thirds of the total Basin population, or twice what it is today and almost five times more than in 1950.
9. It is in fertility rate trends that lies the explanation for such disparity between the two rims: In the north the rates are often below the level of generation replacement (2.1 child per woman in procreative age), while cyclical fertility indicators remain very high (even if they show a relative decrease) with 5 or more children, per woman in the South and East; rates are higher in rural areas than urban areas. Thus the Mediterranean is one of the very rare frontiers in the world that separate two contiguous zones with opposite demographic characteristics. It is estimated that the population of the South and East will stabilise (i.e. stable population with zero rate of increase) only in the second half of the 21st century.

10. The composition of the populations by age groups will obviously play a major role in the labour market by the years 2000 and 2025, even though the real activity rates are the most uncertain. In the Northern countries, the population in working age (theoretical difference between those "entering" the labour market - ages 15-24 years - and those "leaving" it - ages 55-65 years) will increase at an even slower rate: the active population will become older and older. In certain countries, the first few years after the turn of the century, the number of those in the active group will even start decreasing which would mean a serious deficit of young adults in the labour market. The trend for even more women in the job market would continue and could partially fill the gaps. In the countries of the South and East of the Mediterranean with relatively high fertility rates, those potentially entering the labour market will outnumber those leaving it, with the gap widening even more until it reaches its maximum around the year 2000. Thus the pressures of the demand would considerably aggravate the problems of employment.
11. Regardless of the type of development followed, urbanisation will continue at an increased rate: rate approaching the limit value of 70 to 80% for the Northern countries, increasing towards these values in the Southern and Eastern countries (which today show rates between 40 and 50%). In the South and East often urbanisation precedes industrialisation and development (intensifying thus the phenomenon of spontaneous, precarious and/or illegal construction for housing), contrary to what occurred in the North.
12. Urban growth will be explosive in the countries of the South and East, where it is on average five times faster than what it was in Europe for one and a half centuries (between the years 1800 and 1950). Growth rates are not the only parameter to take into consideration. Those living in urban areas will be very numerous: an additional 200 million will live in cities between now and the year 2025 in the South and East, a number equalling that of the urban population in the Mediterranean region today. Indeed, those living in cities around the Mediterranean Basin may number between 380 and 440 million, as against a little over 200 million today.
13. The growth rate of the large urban areas (or "megalopolises") will give rise or accelerate a series of well known imbalances (congestion, crowded and unsanitary tenement districts, high criminal rates etc.). Already today, the large capitals hold approximately between 30 and 60% of urban jobs and their sphere of economic impact extends to the whole of the national territory; this is contrary to the other cities that have a limited sphere of economic influence.
14. If today, generally speaking, the socio-economic differences are still very pronounced among the countries (e.g. the range of GNP *per capita* going from 1 to 30), in the last three decades there has been a strong growth of certain progress indicators, especially in the countries of the South and East, such as:
  - the average, *per capita* GNP has gone from \$1,500 in 1965 to \$2,000 in 1990;
  - infant mortality has halved;
  - life expectancy has gone from 48 to 64 years of age;
  - primary school attendance is nearing 100%, that of secondary school has trebled, while the attendance rates for women has increased five-fold;
  - the number of patients per physician has decreased more than three times.

15. As regards the Human Development Indicator (HDI) calculated by UNDP since 1990 the gap among Mediterranean countries goes between 1 and 1.7 (as against 1 and 4.7 world wide).
16. However the favourable trends in respect of human progress should not hide the reality of social differences which constitute a major obstacle to sustainable development

#### **Development of energy consumption**

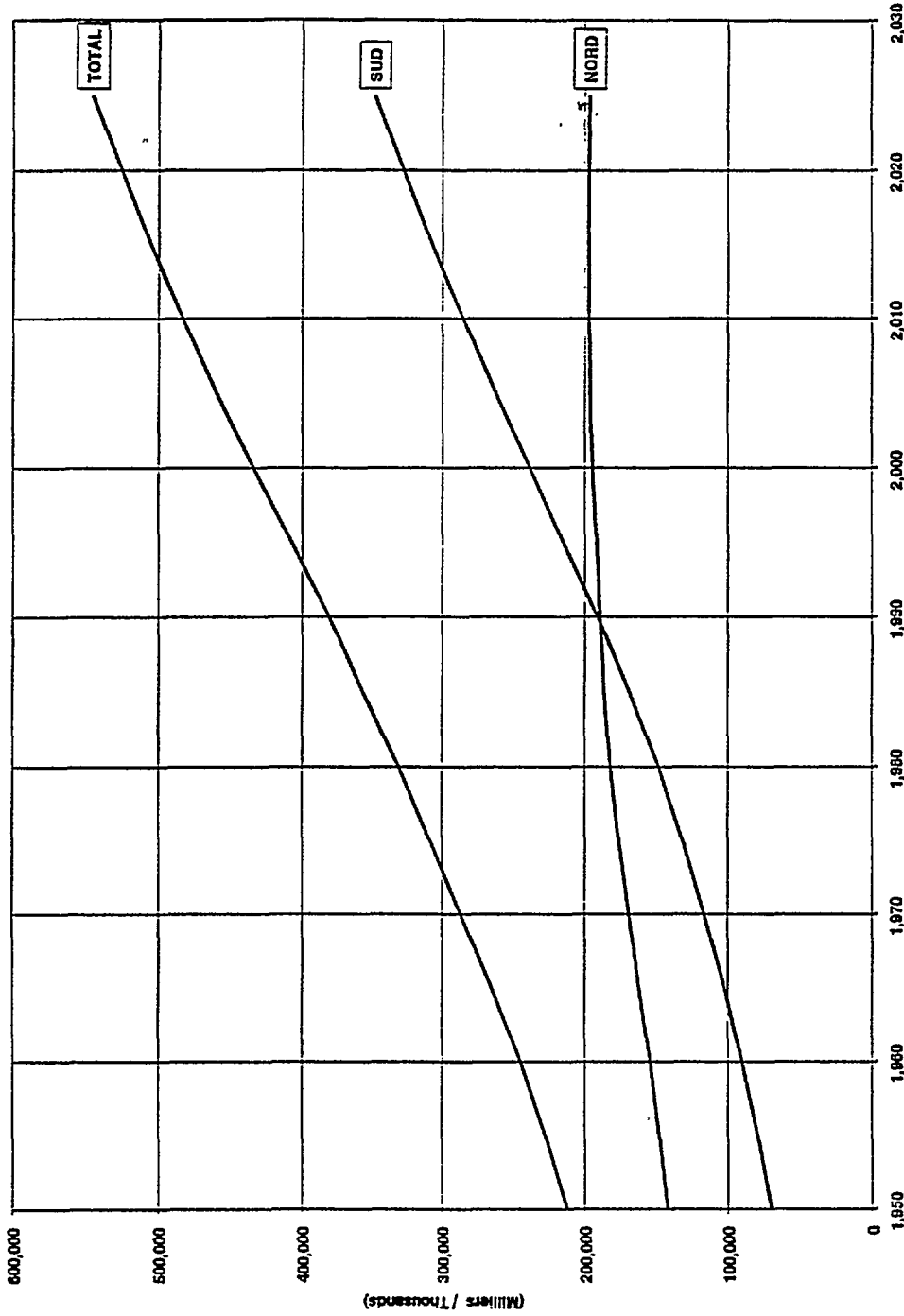
17. In 1950, the consumption of energy in the Mediterranean countries amounted to 100Mtep approximately, or a little more than 6% of world consumption, while the Mediterranean population came to 8.5% of the world population. In 1990, energy consumption exceeded 700 Mtep, or 8.4% of world consumption, while the population of the Mediterranean region has come down to 7.2% of the total. However, the differences between the North and the South are considerable: in 1990, France, the largest consumer showed 4016 *kep/per capita*, as against 601 for Egypt or 267 for Morocco, while the world average was 1600 *kep/per capita*.
18. Oil reserves concentrated in the South (Libya: 58%, Algeria: 23%) are estimated at 5200 millions of tons (end 1990), or 3.8% of the world total; natural gas reserves concentrated in the South (Algeria: 58%, Libya: 21%) are estimated at 5675 GM<sup>3</sup> (end 1990), or 4.2% of world total.
19. Even if almost all coal is consumed in the North and uranium has started being used, oil remains the first energy source accounting for a little over 50% of commercial energy sources in 1990. However, it is dropping everywhere, while natural gas is on the increase: the consumption of gas has gone from 25 Mtep in 1971 to 115 Mtep in 1990. A strong increase in the use of electricity in all Mediterranean countries should be taken into consideration: 410 twh in 1971, (or 2000 *kwh per capita* for the North and 170 *kwh* for the South and East), 1051 twh in 1990, (or 4800 *kwh* for the North and 850 *kwh* for the South and East).

#### **Agriculture, heavy use of water**

20. In the Mediterranean Basin, agriculture is determined by two main factors: the limits imposed by natural resources and food dependence. There are few plains and several climatic constraints: irrigation is unavoidable in order to improve yields, which, in certain countries, could be multiplied by 3 or 4. Irrigation looms very large in water demand: it accounts for 62% of water use in the North and 93% in the South. Irrigation must overcome several problems, a major one being soil salinisation. Salinisation is increasing, especially in the countries of the South and East, where there is the combination of poor drainage and high evaporation. For instance, Egypt faces the highest risks in terms of surface affected: 30% of the soils in the Nile valley have become salinised and 40% show signs of salinisation; Syria is in second position with 12% of its Mediterranean catchment area threatened.
21. Agriculture intensification, which also leads to an increased use of pesticides and fertilisers which affect soil quality, causes serious risks and has a heavy impact on natural resources and the GDP which shows a downward trend.



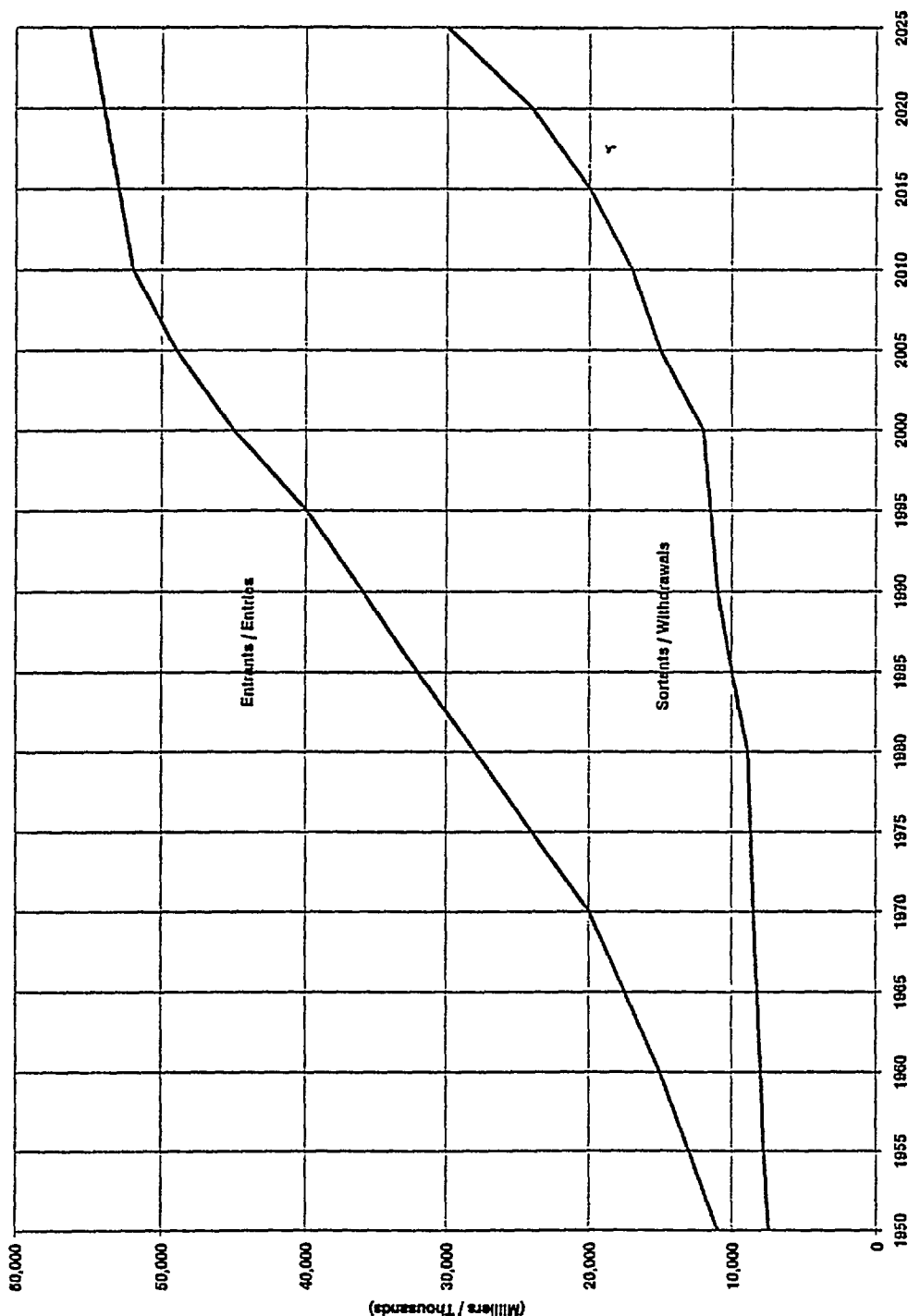
POPULATION DES PAYS MEDITERRANEENS  
POPULATION IN MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRIES



Source: Plan Bleu - UN  
Source: Blue Plan - UN

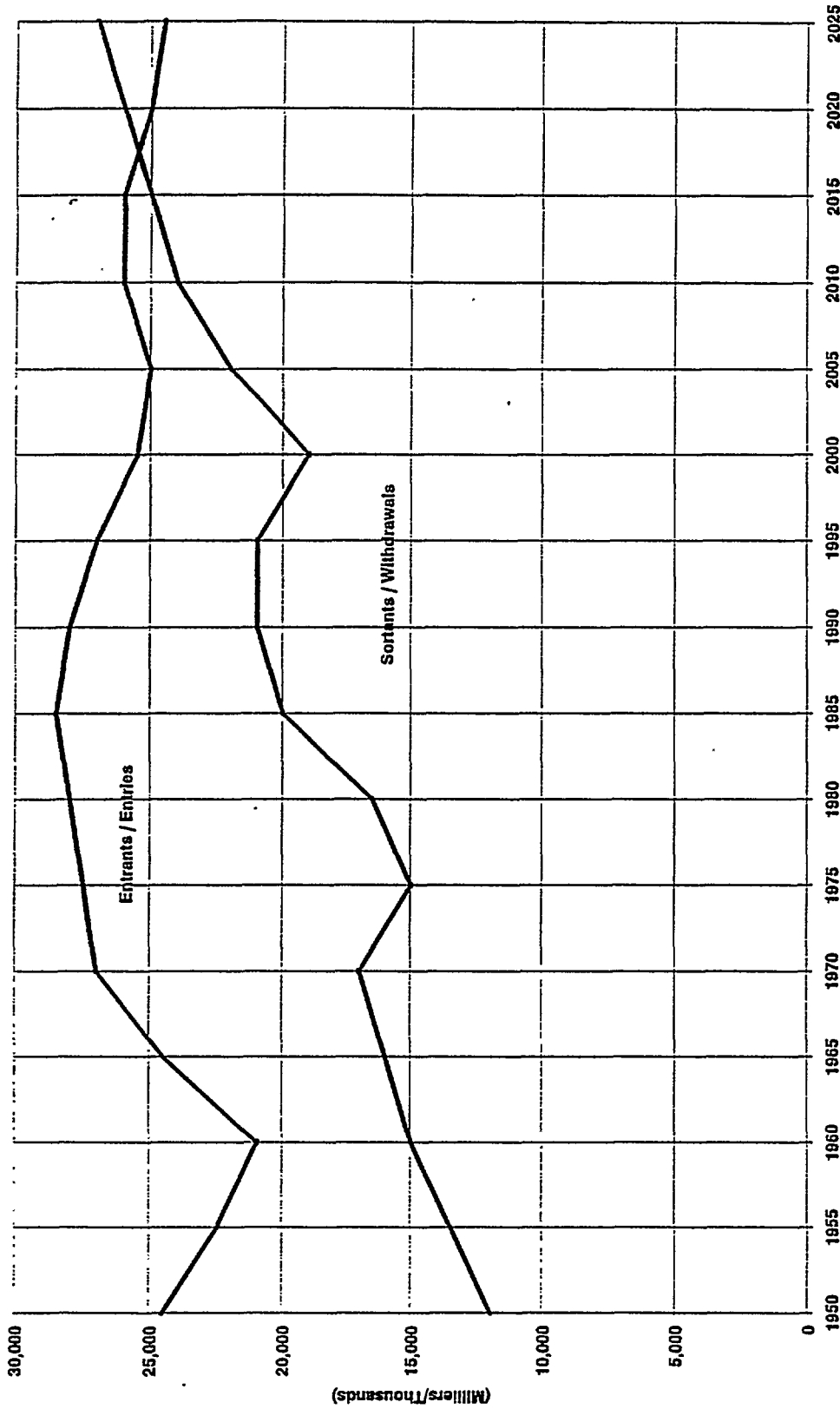
Le rythme d'accroissement de la population de l'ensemble des pays méditerranéens semble s'atténuer à partir de l'an 2000. La population des pays du Sud dépasse celle des pays du Nord à partir de 1990. The rate of population growth of the Mediterranean countries as a whole seems to level off from the year 2000. The population of the southern countries exceeds that of the northern countries as from 1990.

TURQUIE, SYRIE, EGYPTE, LIBYE, TUNISIE, ALGERIE, MAROC  
 TURKEY, SYRIA, EGYPT, LIBYA, TUNISIA, ALGERIA, MOROCCO



Les entrants et les sortants du marché du travail dans les pays méditerranéens (en milliers)  
 Evolution 1950-1985 - Scénario moyen 1985-2025  
 Entries into and withdrawals from the labour market in the Mediterranean countries (in thousands)  
 Evolution trends 1950-1985 - Average scenario 1985-2025

ESPAGNE, FRANCE, ITALIE, GRECE  
SPAIN, FRANCE, ITALY, GREECE



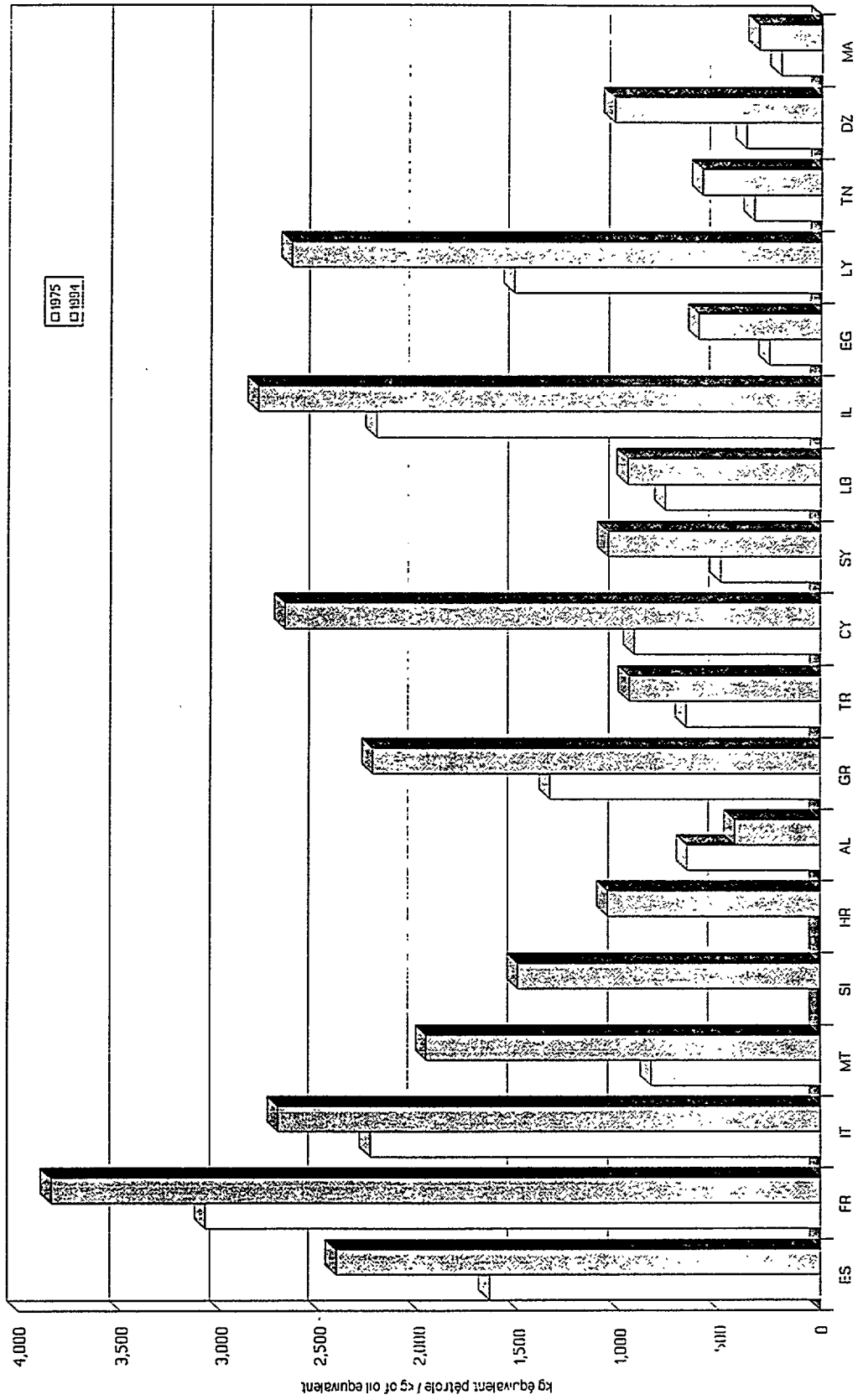
NB: entrants = 15-24 ans  
entries = 15-24 age group  
sortants = 55-66 ans  
withdrawals = 55-66 age group

Source: Plan Bleu - UN  
Source: Bleu Plan - UN

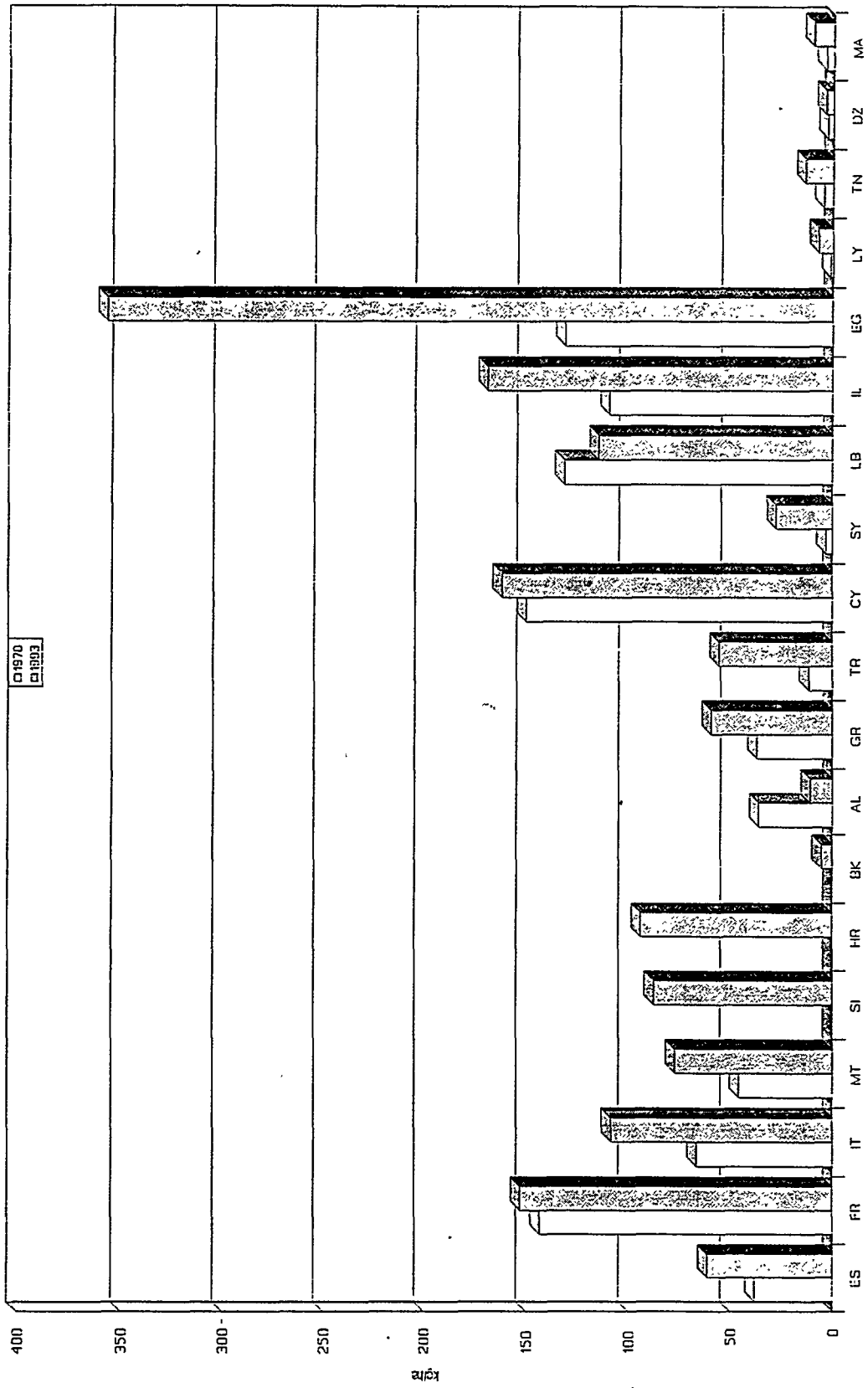
**Mediterranean countries**

	Population 1993	GNP 1993	GNP <i>per</i> <i>capita</i>	HDI
	Thousands	Thousand million dollars	Dollars	1993
Albania	3168	1,15	340	0,633
Algérie	26853	47,57	1780	0,746
Bosnia & Herzegovina	4383	x	x	x
Croatia	4779	12093	2530	x
Cyprus	718	7,53	10380	0,909
Egypt	55745	37,25	660	0,611
France	57667	1292,56	22490	0,935
Greece	10378	76,60	7390	0,909
Israel	5310	72,65	13920	0,908
Italie	57049	1139,29	19840	0,914
Lebanon	3855	x	x	0,664
Libya	5038	23,43	5330	0,792
Malta	365	2,88	7970	0,886
Monaco	31	x	x	x
Morocco	25852	26,98	1040	0,534
Slovenia	1967	14246	7140	x
Spain	39083	536,02	13590	0,933
Syria	13393	14,66	1170	0,690
Tunisia	8656	14,89	1720	0,727
Turkey	59672	177,00	2970	0,711

CONSOMMATION D'ENERGIE PAR HABITANT / ENERGY CONSUMPTION PER CAPITA



CONSUMMATION D'ENGRAIS / FERTILIZER CONSUMPTION



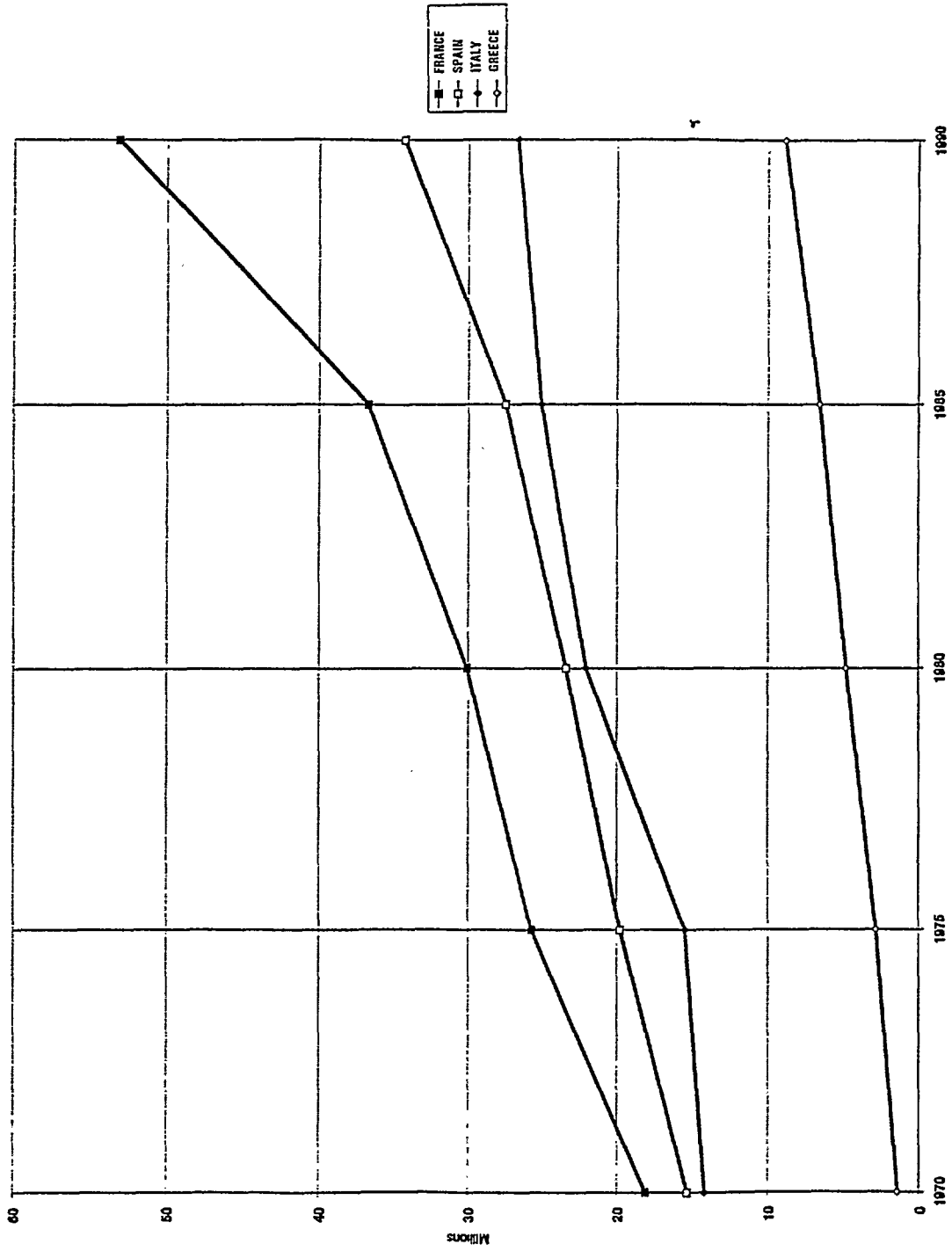
### An industrial region

22. For the industrial revolution in Europe up until 1950, the Mediterranean Basin played the role of a marginal, under-developed region: the few existing industries were concentrated on the Northern rim. From 1950 onwards, expansion has been rapid; it reached the Southern rim, especially Libya and Morocco from 1970. From the mid 70's changes in the industrial pictures became apparent: slower growth in the Northern countries, problems, mostly related to fluctuations in oil prices for the Southern countries.
23. Today, in the Mediterranean countries lives 7.2% of the world population, while these countries account for 16% of the world industrial production; out of this 16%, 70% is the combined industrial production of France and Italy; if we add the industrial production of Spain the percentage goes up to 87%. Thus a strong imbalance between the North and the South continues to exist. Industrial development faces a lot of problems, among which we should note a strong competition for available land *vis-à-vis* urban expansion, especially on the coast where attempts have been made to install industrial complexes in the field of energy and harbour facilities
24. Furthermore, industry brings with it the need for consumption of large quantities of water which differ from country to country: on the whole they amount to 14 km<sup>3</sup>/year 3/4 of which for the Northern countries.

### First tourist destination in the world

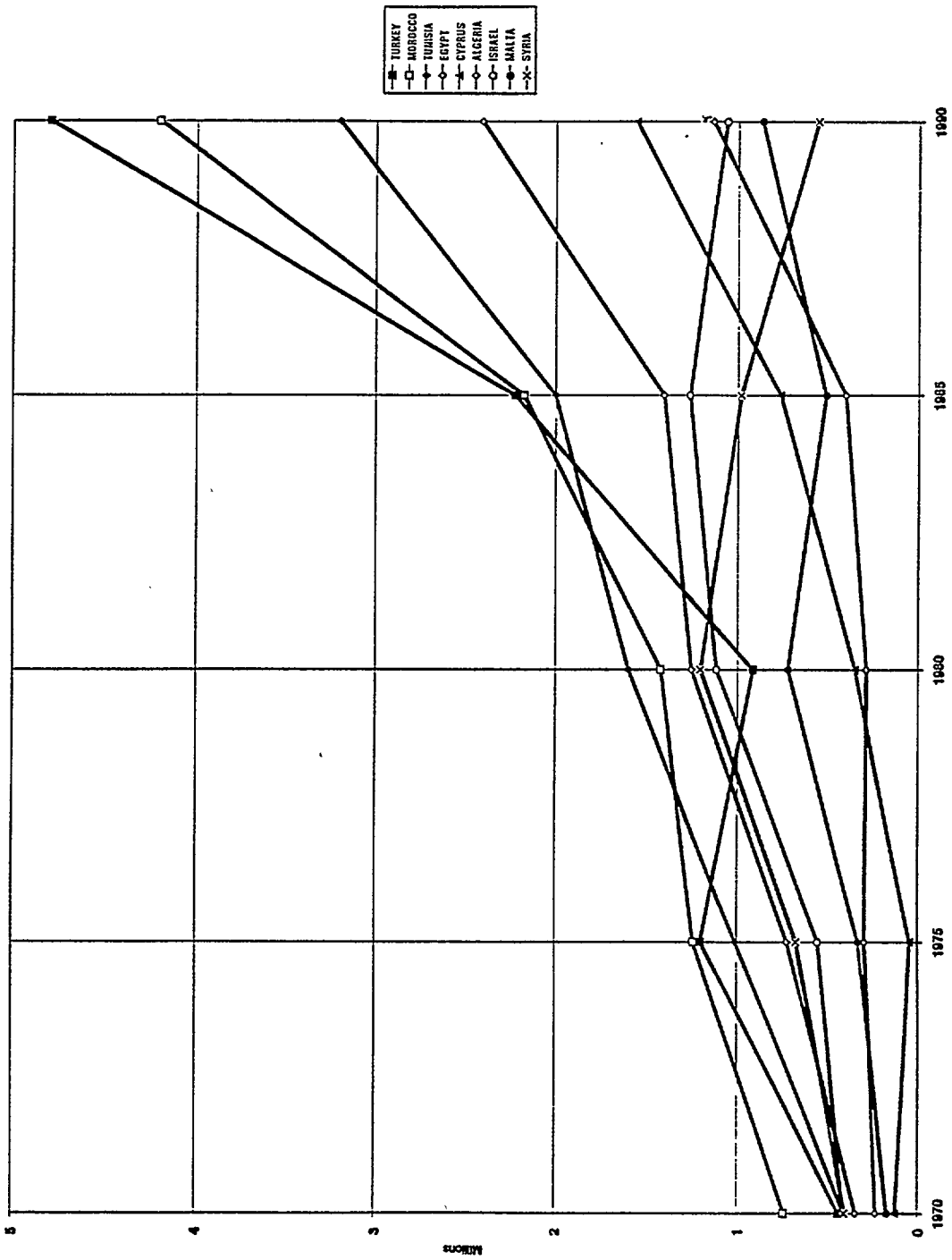
25. In 1990 international tourism throughout the world concerned 440 million tourists. Between 1986 and 1990 the rate of increase was 7.3%. Europe alone receives approximately 180 million international tourists. The Mediterranean basin, with 147 million international tourists in 1990 is the top tourist destination in the world. In the Mediterranean countries, between 1970 and 1986 the annual rate of increase in the number of tourists was 4.5% which became 4.8% between 1986 and 1990 and is lower than the relevant percentage for the world during the same period. Spain, France, Italy and Greece receive 4/5 of this international tourism, however these four countries have an annual rate of increase of only 4.5% while the percentage for all the countries of the South and East of the Mediterranean is 10.3%. In 1990, Malta registered the highest density of tourists per km<sup>2</sup> receiving 870,000, while Spain has the greatest number of tourists per km of coast. However there is a trend to move away from excessively urbanised coasts, which means that tourists show an interest in staying further inland or seeking coasts that are still "untouched" more to the East of the Mediterranean. Generally speaking, tourist destinations on islands or southern destinations are reached by plane, superseded by land transport through Europe.
26. The strong card of Mediterranean tourism which, according to the Blue Plan scenarios, is expected to show a considerable increase between 70 and 300% in 30 years and make an essential contribution to national economies, represents (in the current thinking about tourism) a serious risk of non-sustainability because of the irreversibility of reception facilities which are often excessive for the site and because of inadequate protection of the sensitive areas which would make the landscapes affected unattractive.

International tourists in the Mediterranean countries of the European Union





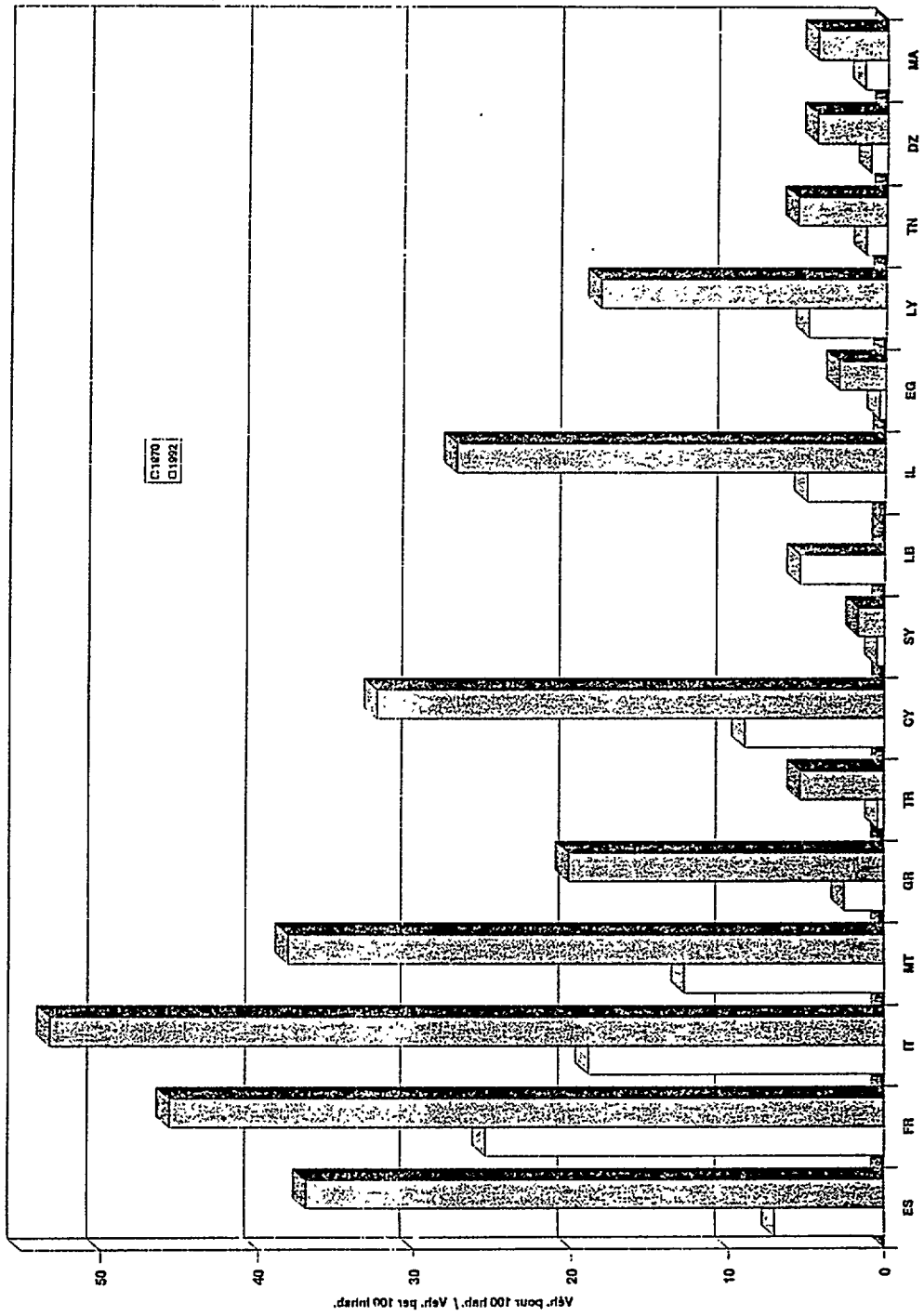
International tourists in the countries of the South and East of the Mediterranean



**Transport: from maritime transport to land transport**

27. It was relatively late that the Mediterranean Basin experienced the phenomenon of land transport; this had to do with both geographical relief and focus on the sea. Today the northern rim has many road/highway "terminals", as well as a highway network especially developed in Italy, France and Spain. As concerns the South and East the highway boom is still to come and the needs in road infrastructures are considerable: In these countries the number of motor vehicles is still far from the saturation point that is observed in the Northern Mediterranean countries. The total of motor vehicles for all Mediterranean countries is about 60 million and that figure is expected to treble in the next 30 years.
  
28. One should not overlook the other modes of transport. Even if the train - more developed in the North than in the South - does not play a major role and even if air transport has been developing rapidly in the last 20 years, maritime transport retains its fundamental role: it is only in the last decade that planes have taken away from ships an even increasing number of passengers moving among Mediterranean destinations. Furthermore, the Mediterranean is a very busy sea in terms of cargo, for both intramediterranean trade and trade with countries outside the region; it is also crossed by ships in transit. Hydrocarbon are the main goods carried: 35% of the quantities of world oil carried transits through the Mediterranean. The annual traffic of ships larger than 100 tons is estimated at 220,000; at any given time there are more than 2000 cargo ships in the Mediterranean of which 250 to 300 tankers or 1/3 of world traffic. The numbers are increasing and there is a qualitative evolution as well.

PARC AUTOMOBILE DES VEHICULES DE TOURISME EN CIRCULATION / PASSENGER CARS IN USE



### **The coast: a pole of attraction**

29. The attraction that the Mediterranean coasts have had for thousands of years for the people has become in the last 50 years more intense than ever taking massive proportions. This concentration, called littoralisation, in the North followed for the most part industrialisation; in the South, where littoralisation is reinforced by the strong presence of the desert, we see the opposite which makes for even greater difficulties.
30. The total length of the Mediterranean coastlines is estimated at about 46000 km; the coasts of the Northern region (from Spain to Turkey inclusive), some of which are very jagged and include many islands, come to about 39000 km. The Mediterranean coasts are often rocky and cannot be developed in the same way. Flat, usable coasts account for only 40% of the total and for the Southern countries (from Morocco to Syria) about 4000 km. Thus it is on these 4000 km that both the demographic boom and the economic development of these countries will concentrate.
31. Taking all coastal states together, the total number of people living in the coastal regions was 140 million in 1990, out of which 95 million lived in urban areas. Coastal zone population figures should reach between 195 and 217 million people in 2025 (an increase of between 45 and 62%) with urban populations reaching between 145 and 170 million. The above figures give an idea of the double process of urbanisation and littoralisation in progress in the Mediterranean basin. If we take the higher figures, 120 million out of 217 million living on the coast (or 90 million out of 170 million living in coastal urban areas) would belong to countries of the South and East of the Basin.
32. To the pressures exerted on the coast by the demographic boom and urbanisation, we must add other pressures from:
  - tourism: its concentration on the coast is practically irreversible;
  - industry and energy, large sectors of which in big plants is already located on the coast, with ever increasing trend in the same direction.

The advantages, but also the risks connected with such concentration of people and activities on the coast make littoralisation a major challenge for sustainable development in the Mediterranean.

**Population in the Mediterranean coastal regions (latest year available)**

	Population			Density		
	Total	Med	Med/Tot	Total	Med	Med/Tot
	(000 persons)		(%)	(hab/km2)		(index)
Albania	3 256	1 325	41	113	146	1,29
Algeria	23 039	10 105	44	10	215	22,21
Bosnia & Herzegovina	4,470	300	7	87	51	0,58
Croatia	4 900	1 520	31	87	59	0,68
Cyprus	503	503	100	54	54	1,00
Egypt	58 978	24 004	41	59	209	3,54
France	56 556	5 839	10	103	124	1,20
Greece	10 264	9 209	90	78	92	1,18
Israel	5 472	3 041	56	263	784	2,98
Italie	57 104	32 621	57	190	197	1,04
Lebanon	3 000	2 700	90	293	552	1,88
Libya	4 900	3 920	80	3	23	8,28
Malta	362	362	100	1 145	1 145	1,00
Monaco	30	30	100	15 000	15 000	1,00
Morocco	26 074	3 670	14	37	87	2,39
Slovenia	2 020	250	12	100	57	0,57
Spain	39 434	15 926	40	78	167	2,13
Syria	14 186	1 362	10	77	324	4,23
Tunisia	8 785	6 164	70	57	135	2,37
Turkey	56 473	11 336	20	72	92	1,28
<b>Total</b>	<b>392 636</b>	<b>135 391</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>2,95</b>

## **II.2 Vulnerability and limits of the natural heritage, both as a base and a factor of development**

33. Socio-economic development, in order to meet the demands of an increasing population, exerts pressure on natural resources and the environment which might lead to breaks in the development process in the short or medium term. In the Mediterranean region the risks are especially linked to availability of continental water, quality of coastal waters, the preservation of forests and soil; in general environment is ceding quickly to development. On the other hand, the economic impact of the degradation of landscapes and cultural sites, of the loss of biological diversity, of marine pollution, of international waters, of climatic changes and of air acidifications are less obvious and more insidious: their long term consequences may prove to be very onerous, even if the Mediterranean populations are not directly affected.
34. Thus, the priority problem of sustainable development, taking into consideration natural resources involves water, soil, etc, without ignoring, for the sake of systems interactions, the other components of the natural environments.

### **Biological diversity**

35. Within the past few hundred years, human activity has had a profound and, in some cases, irreversible effect on the environment and on individual species. As the human population has increased, more and more land has been cleared for agriculture, settlement and industry, and species have been collected from the wild at an unsustainable rate. Thousands of species are under threat of extinction, loss of habitat and environmental pollution. Because species in ecosystems are interdependent, the loss of one species can lead to the disappearance of many others.
36. The Mediterranean, with its landscapes and its varied and unique natural heritage, represents for its inhabitants and for the millions of visiting tourists a common heritage which deserves to be protected and conserved for present and future generations. However, the negative impacts of uncontrolled urban, industrial and tourist development and the lack of appropriate environmental strategies constitute a threat to the preservation of the ecological balance and the survival of species, as well as to the conservation of several sites of great natural and historic value and of the exceptional Mediterranean landscapes.
37. However, within the last few years, the value of maintaining biodiversity is gradually being realised, and steps are being taken to conserve species and ecosystems.

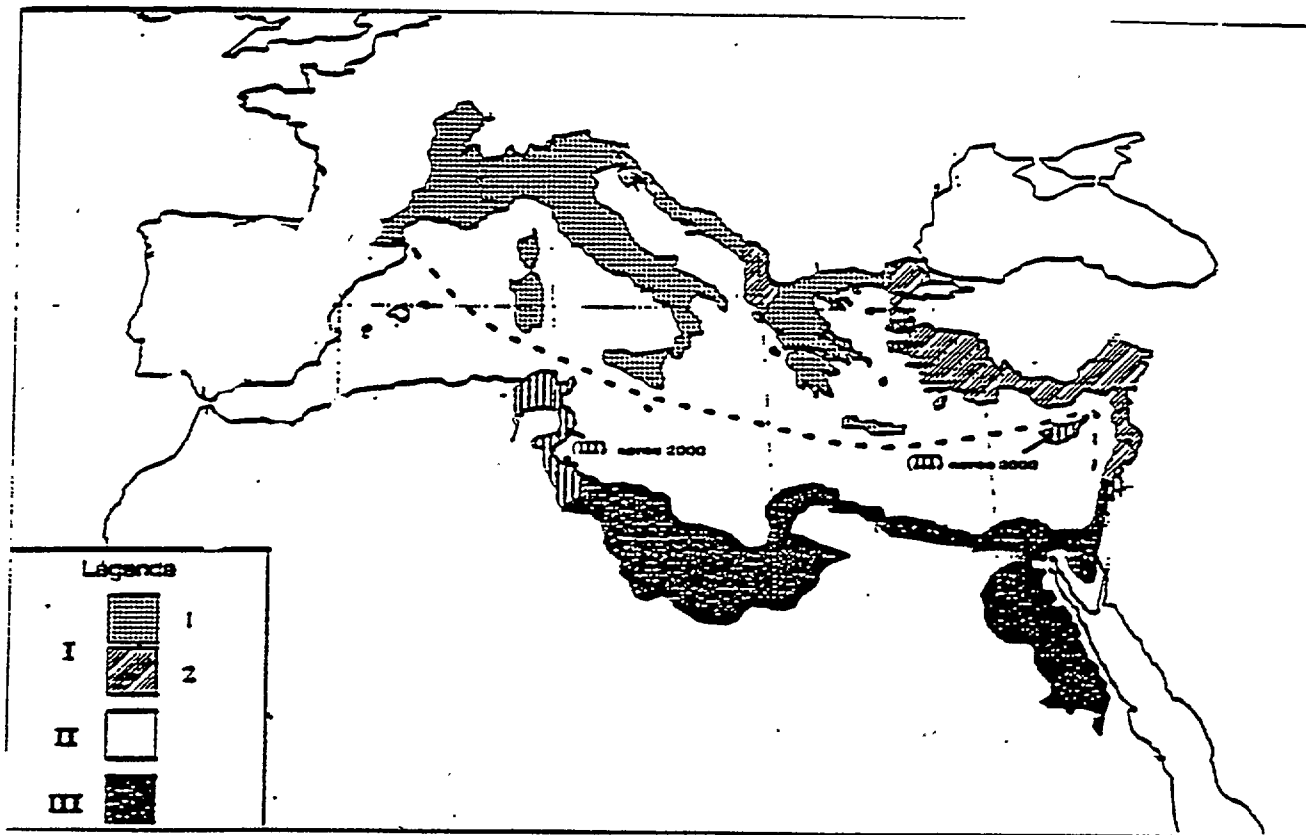
UNEP has been involved in drawing up the Global Biodiversity Strategy, which outlines steps that can be taken to protect and maintain biodiversity. The strategy compliments the Convention of Biological Diversity (Rio, June 1992).

38. MAP Phase II, the Barcelona Convention and the protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean aim at proposing to the Contracting Parties a programme of activities that will assist them to protect and sustainably manage the natural and cultural Mediterranean heritage, thus contributing to the sustainable development of the region.

**Water: rarefaction and degradation**

39. Retrospective statistical analyses show that the initial resources is in even greater demand through increased use for agricultural and urban purposes to cover the needs in water and food of an increasing population, especially on the coast. The prospective studies carried out in the Mediterranean by the Blue Plan conclude that "water resources are already and will be in the future a factor limiting development in the majority of coastal states". The indicator, defined as the ratio between quantities of water used and available resources, exceeds 50% for several countries, which makes imperative already the strict management of water resources.
40. Thus, the Mediterranean countries can be divided into three groups (illustrated in the figure below):
- those countries where water would be sufficient to meet the demand up to the year 2025 and beyond;
  - those countries where water availability would decrease markedly and where new strategies for the management of available resources or inter-regional transfers of water would be needed (the latter option costing a lot in energy and having a high social impact);
  - finally, those countries where stocks are already limited and where use indicators have exceeded 100% or will do so from the year 2000.
41. This imbalance in both quantity and quality of water between the countries of the North and the countries of the South of the Mediterranean is a major fact which looms large in future scenarios. Some Mediterranean countries already face a serious water shortage.
42. The contrasts will become more pronounced between the countries that must manage the conservation of quality water and the countries that are or will be forced to manage the "scarcity" of the resource. In the latter case, the rare available quantities of water will intensify the efforts to protect the environment in order to ensure good quality water for humans.

### Hydro-geo-ecological subdivisions in the Mediterranean Basin



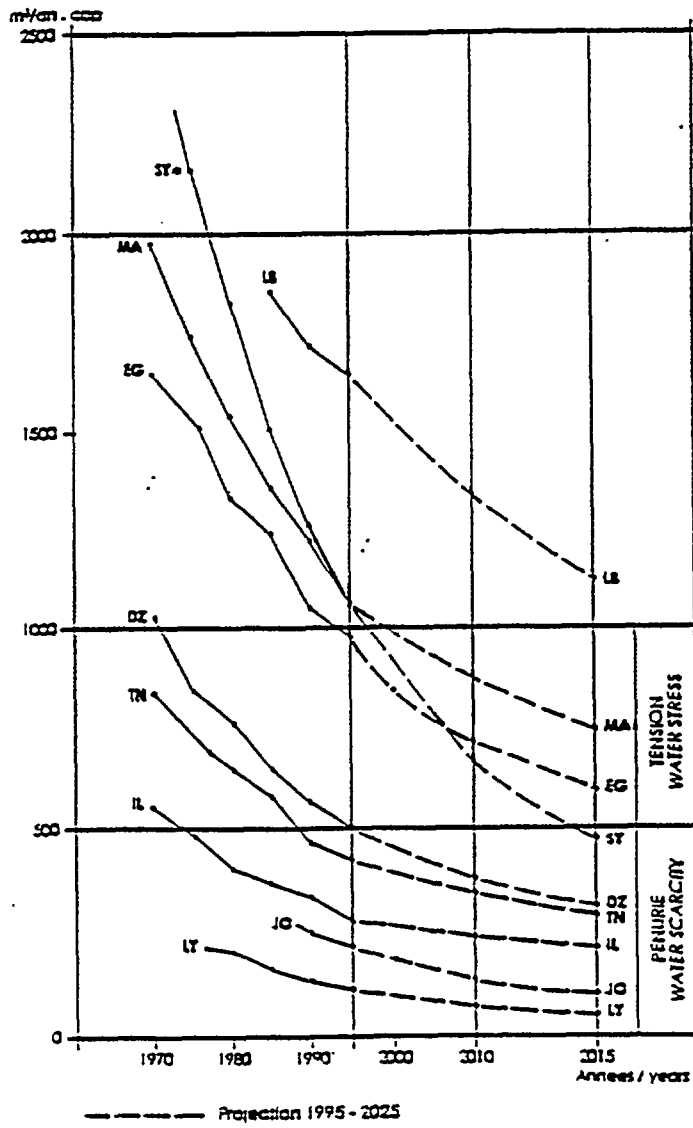
Source: Margat, 92

- I. Quantitative pressures on continental water stocks weak to moderate (1) stable or (2) increasing. Stronger pressures, localised and extensive on quality. Priority on safety problems (supply, defense against waters) and on protection of water (resource and environmental component).
- II. Strong quantitative pressures on continental water stocks already increasing or (III) reaching a ceiling with intensification of resource use.
- II and III. Pressures on the quality, more localised and concentrated. Chronic water shortages and vulnerability to droughts.



43. Priority on water saving, imports and use of non-conventional sources. Preservation of water in the environment a very low priority, or only to conserve the renewal of used resources. Thus the perspectives of water shortages are different from country to country in the Mediterranean region and within the countries themselves depending on local parameters of underground and surface resources; there is also the time element, under the impact of the two trends which are difficult to reverse, demographic increase and urbanisation.
44. It seems that the margins of manoeuvre have disappeared or will disappear within the span of one generation in most Mediterranean countries, given that the challenges linked to water are no great. The time is past when an area facing an incipient water shortage could count quickly on resources available in other areas. In other words, the problem will require more than a local solution as time goes by.
45. In particular, water for farming which accounts for three quarters of the Mediterranean consumption will have to be used partly for domestic and industrial purposes, more solvent and with a better rate of return. However, such a policy would have to be supported by a non-mandatory, interministerial management that will consider water as a precious resource. Even if the priority objective is to be sure to satisfy the needs of the people in water and ensure that all types of production that use water have the highest added value, nevertheless the other functions to which water is assigned should not be forgotten: mainly to concentrate on the preservation of specific ecosystems and of biodiversity, as well as to the quality of life of people in the Mediterranean countries. Thus, to reconcile the differences in the allocation of water resources will prove to be very difficult in the future.

Water scarcity



Water resources m <sup>3</sup> /year		1995 current situation	2010 hypothesis of demographic growth			
			low	high	low	high
500 to 1000	Country	Egypt Algeria	Egypt Morocco Syria*	Egypt Morocco Syria*	Egypt Morocco Syria*	Cyprus Egypt Morocco
	Population**	87	133	145	154	154
<500	Country	Gaza strip Israel Jordan Libya Malta Tunisia	Algeria Gaza Str Israel Jordan Libya Malta Tunisia	Algeria Gaza Str Israel Jordan Libya Malta Tunisia	Algeria Gaza Str Israel Jordan Libya Malta Tunisia	Algeria Gaza Str Israel Jordan Libya Malta Syria* Tunisia
	Population**	26	71	77	85	138
<1000	Population**	113	204	223	239.1	292
% of total country population		26,5	42	43	46	48

#### Future water scarcity in the Mediterranean region

\* referring to present resources

\*\* in millions of inhabitants

46. In effect, the water system on the coast has a direct impact on marine coastal waters: outputs of rivers and discharge outfalls of raw or treated wastewaters (average rate of treatment for all coastal states 20%, ranging from 10 to 70% depending on the country) play a decisive role in the quality of bathing waters, thus affecting seaside tourism in the Mediterranean and impact upon the renewal of living marine resources in the infralittoral zone.

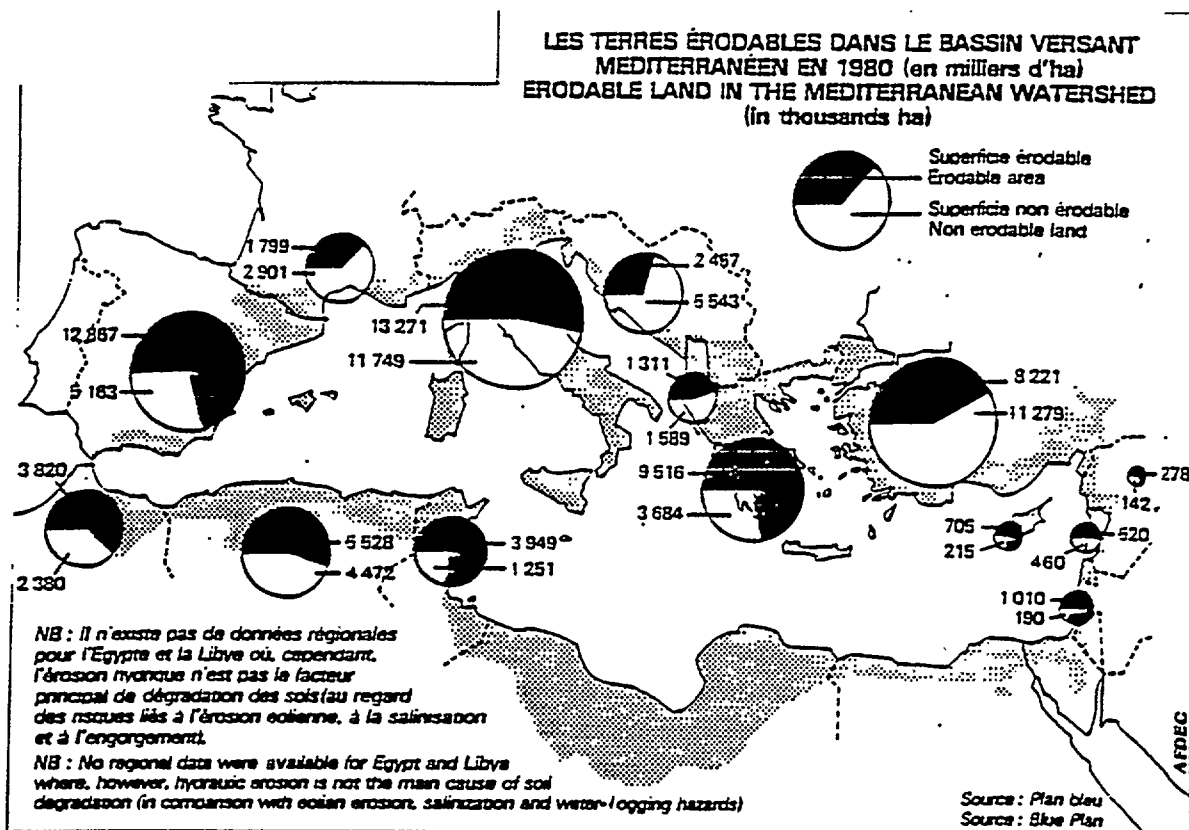
#### Soil: excessive forest exploitation and irreversible erosion

47. The productive role of the Mediterranean forest continues to be important for some countries (Maghreb and Turkey for instance) where management will aim especially at improving wool or plant production and ensuring regeneration. However, the roles that the Mediterranean forest must most importantly play are to protect the soils, to increase and regulate water resources and to preserve the endemic plant and animal species. The next 50 years will be decisive for the conservation, protection or survival of some forests which are under tremendous pressure, especially in Northern Africa and on the Eastern part of the Basin. The evolution of Mediterranean forests is toward degraded forms as a result of various pressures (excessive grazing, excessive cutting for firewood, forest fires, clearing, diseases etc.) impacting upon various types of wooded formations.

48. Currently, the main pressures in the South and East of the Basin are excessive grazing and firewood cutting, while the risk of fires is increasing and diseases are not negligible. The main pressures in the North are fires which are linked to a greater or lesser degree to excessive concentration of tourist and leisure activities and to the fact that rural populations no longer live there with consequent lack of maintenance and monitoring of the forested areas.
49. If current trends continue, the current or envisaged policies of reforestation and planting will prove totally inadequate:
- in the Southern and Eastern countries, the Mediterranean forests will be reduced by one fourth or even by half in the most serious cases by the year 2025.  
FAO has confirmed the worsening situation in respect of the Mediterranean forest; it established the average rate of deforestation for the last ten years at -1.1% (as against -0.8% for the tropical forest throughout the world) in the countries of the South and East.
  - In the Northern countries, the Mediterranean forest is being destroyed by fire at such a rate that already replanting schemes cannot compensate losses, while at the same time land is cleared for agricultural purposes at an increasing rate.
50. The prospective analysis of the use of land for human activities other than farming has shown the greatest pressures would continue to come from urbanisation and the development of road and highway networks; these two activities would lead to an average land use of the order of 70000 km<sup>2</sup> by 2025 for the whole Basin. Even if the figures are not really prohibitive if compared to the various national territories, the impact becomes a lot more serious if it is exerted on and to the detriment of agricultural land or in the restricted and much sought after areas of coastal zones (and even more so where there is a combination of the two).
51. With regards to the impact of farming activities, soil erosion (especially by runoff waters), desertification and salinisation of irrigated areas lead to lost of productive soils, first and foremost those on the surface which obviously are the richest in organic matter.
52. Currently, the areas that are protected by a plant cover from water or wind erosion, in the Mediterranean region (i.e. catchment areas) vary depending on the country between 20% and more than 60%. However, the extension of serious erosion (defined as 5t more than 50t/ha/year) on both farm land and other types of land (forest and grazing land especially) is a reality in all Mediterranean countries (mainly Greece, Turkey, Algeria, Israel etc.). In 1980, 35% of land under crop in the Mediterranean (catchment areas) were really losing between 5 and 50t/ha/year, which means that the annual loss of productive sediments is estimated at 300 million tons a year, for just agricultural land (arable land, temporary cultures, gardens, vineyards, set aside etc.). We must also point out that the figures on annual losses hide the fact that in the Mediterranean climate such losses are not often concentrated in a period of a few months, that of heavy rains. Appropriate methods to resolve this problem have to be used (banks of earth, terrassing etc.). Soil erosion in the downstream causes silting up in water tanks, which although it is usually estimated that they would last for 50 of

100 years are increasingly and seriously threatened in regions with strong generalised soil erosion (Italy, Turkey, Greece, Spain, Maghreb countries; thus the volume of water resources would diminish accordingly if appropriate management of catchment areas were not carried out). Furthermore, retention of sediments in dams deprives certain coastal areas (deltas, beaches) of sediments necessary for their conservation or enrichment and leaves them open to the risk of increased erosion. Inversely, coastal pollution is made worse by the sediments coming to the sea since they contain many organic and inorganic pollutants which contaminate the receiving environments (riverbeds, water used for farming and producing food for urban populations, deltas estuaries and coastal areas).

53. Concerning irrigation, negative impact is mainly due to the fact that many types of soil, which are potentially fragile and unstable have a limited capacity (not well understood as yet) to assimilate substances entering them as a result of intensified agricultural exploitation (especially in the countries of the South and East of the Basin). If that capacity is exceeded, i.e. when drainage and irrigation techniques are not adequately controlled, then salinisation, clogging or sodification phenomena occur in the irrigated areas and irrigation waters; such phenomena then cause loss of productivity and gradual barrenness of the soils in question (this can happen in a short period of time, 5 to 15 years).
54. The erosion of Mediterranean soils and the inability to stop the process are one of the most serious threats. Soil management policies presuppose quick and at the same time very long term action on the one hand, and the mobilisation of substantial means on the other.



### Living marine resources

55. The influence of human activities on the marine environment and its resources is of particular concern for enclosed or semi-enclosed bodies of water such as the Mediterranean sea. Growing populations and the associated growth of industrial, agricultural and tourist industries are affecting and will continue to affect living marine resources including fisheries which, in the Mediterranean, is also affected by the largely uncontrolled increase in effective fishing effort that has occurred over the last decade or so.

56. Three separate types of impact can be pointed out for the Mediterranean:

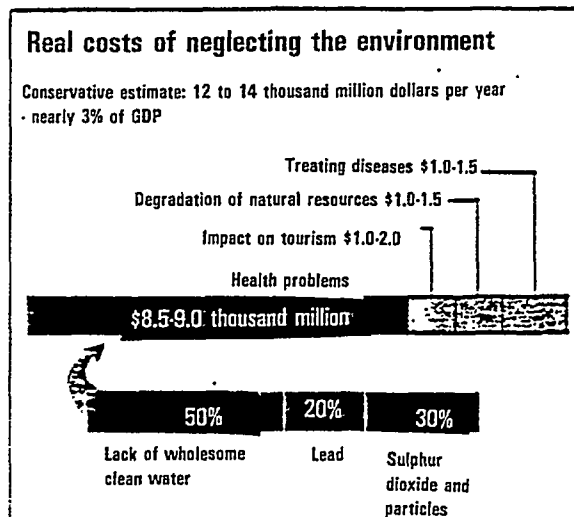
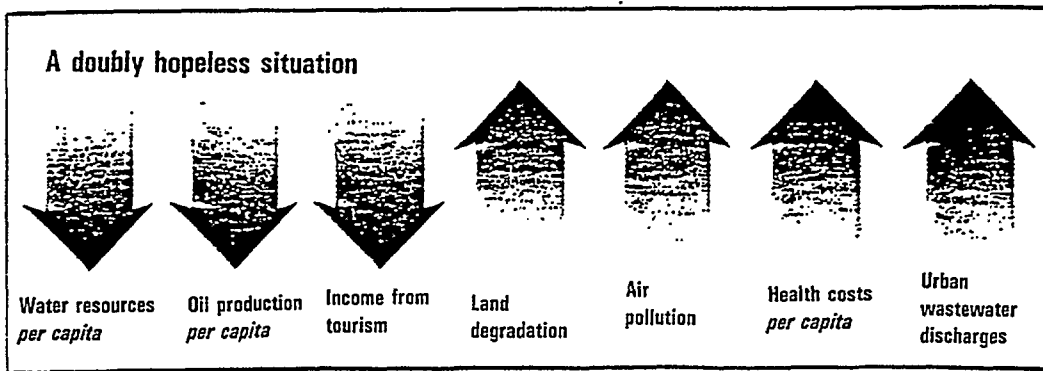
- (i) discharge of toxic non-biodegradable chemicals into river systems or directly into the sea. Such chemicals may also accumulate in marine biota.
- (ii) the discharge of biodegradable organics, and of nutrients leading to eutrophication, increases primary production and causes changes in the ecosystem affecting the resources, mainly fisheries. These effects have biological and socio-economic impacts.

In moderation, these influences will not all be harmful for the fisheries of the system, and may even, in the early stages, increase production of certain species, although their effects on marine recreational activities are likely to prove serious. They will certainly, however, have significant associated effects on the marine ecosystems concerned, and increase the probability of toxic algal blooms, anoxic conditions of bottom water, and the local fish kills these are associated with.

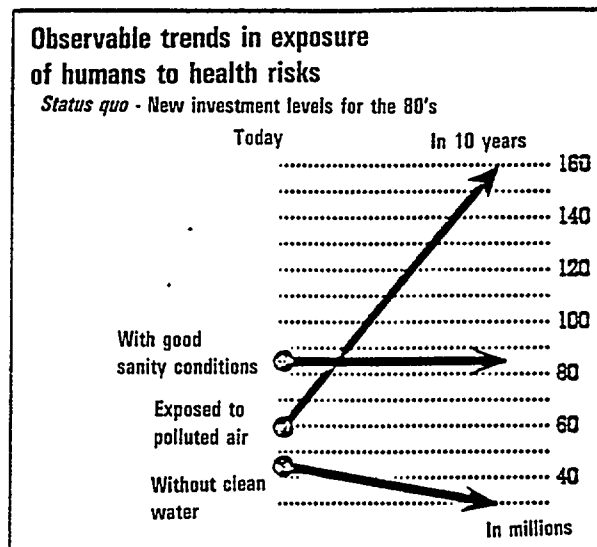
- (iii) The effects of over-exploitation on the resources, which in turn is a consequence of high demand, hence high prices, eg for fish, are to reduce catch rates, make the industry heavily dependent on good years and increase variations in supply from year to year.

### II.3 The capacity to promote sustainable development

57. Without analysing in depth the development that lead to situations causing concern, it must be pointed out that certain ongoing phenomena, such as littoralisation, water scarcity, soil erosion, degradation of the quality of life, including health problems for urban populations, represent the enormous cost of inaction. According to the World Bank the real costs of neglecting the environment were estimated in 1995 at 12 thousand million dollars per year (3% GNP) for the Middle East and North Africa.



58. The World Bank considers the situation as losing on both counts and points out that "it is difficult to give specific figures to the future costs of environmental degradation. However, all these problems together will threaten the perspectives of economic and social development for the region. Moreover, international experience shows clearly that not to act now will make more costly and more complex the palliative measures that will have to be taken sooner or later. The key to success is to make a listing, by order of priority, of the measures to be taken. The problems which affect human health or economic losses should naturally receive a high degree of priority".



59. The means that have to be mobilised to stop these unfavourable trends which would militate against sustainable development in the Mediterranean region are of such a scope that the countries and institutions concerned are not in a position to develop quickly a concrete strategy at Mediterranean level such ongoing catastrophic processes.

However, such a strategy must be developed, jointly with various actors at different levels of organisation, made known in order to take advantage of synergy in the mobilisation of means.



III. PRIORITY FIELDS OF ACTIVITIES FOR ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT WITH REGIONAL DIMENSION

1. The framework of a series of major problems which already have or in the future will have a negative impact on the development of the whole apart from the Mediterranean Basin makes clear the need for devising a strategy adopted accordingly and shared by both coastal states and international institutions, including creditors who are aware of current and future challenges.
2. In the last two years, there has been the emergency and/or the reaffirmation of political will at different levels of organisation which could be translated by improved concerted actions toward sustainable development, on the condition that a body, which has been officially recognised by the government concerned, can ensure that such actions can be coherently integrated in the framework of a Mediterranean strategy.
3. This role was explicitly entrusted upon MAP Phase II by the Contracting parties in Barcelona, in July 1995 on the basis of an assessment of the period 1975-1994.
4. Even though in the beginning, MAP focused its efforts on combating marine pollution, experience soon showed that socio-economic trends linked to poor development planning and management were the root of most environmental problems and that valid and sustainable protection of the environment was inseparable from social and economic development. That is why MAP from a sectoral anti-pollution approach gradually moved towards integrated planning and management as the principal means of finding solutions.
5. Even if it is difficult to assess progress made, direct and indirect evidence shows that concrete measures have been taken by many countries to conform with the reputations and provisions of MAP which has a positive impact on environmental policies and active of the Mediterranean countries. MAP has played a significant role in the developments and progress in respect of environmental protection in the Mediterranean. Among the major successes one could mention: awareness of the importance of a healthy environment for the Mediterranean and its people now and in the future; a clear change in the attitude of decision makers as regards environmental protection and the installation of a sense of solidarity and the need to act collectively to achieve a better future for the Mediterranean.
6. Among the great gaps in the protection of the marine environment in the Mediterranean and its coastal strip, mention should be made of: unsuitable development of the coastal area for lack of will to plan and manage accordingly; national legislations that are both inadequate and not very effective; the scarcity of institutional structures and human resources allocated to this type of activity; finally lack of adequate financial resources and a clear political commitment to solve the existing problems.
7. MAP Phase II was designed by taking into consideration the successes and failures of the first 20 years of running the programme, as well as the results of recent developments, such as the U.N Conference on Environment and Development (Rio de Janero, 1992), the Eighth Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention (Antalya, 1993) and the "Agenda MED 21" Conference on Sustainable Development in the Mediterranean (Tunis, 1994):

### Objectives:

The main objectives of MAP II are the following:

- ensure sustainable management of marine and land natural resources and integrate the environmental component into economic development and land development;
- protect the marine environment and the coastal areas by preventing pollution and by reducing and if possible eliminating pollutant inputs of all kinds, chronic or accidental;
- protect nature, safeguard and enhance the sites and landscapes of environmental or cultural interest;
- reinforce solidarity among coastal Mediterranean states through management of both their common heritage and their resources for the benefit of present and future generations; and finally
- contribute to the improvement of the quality of life.

### Implementation:

- The Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention will systematically collaborate with the relevant UN specialised agencies in order to design and implement the programmes of activities within MAP Phase II.
- The Contracting Parties will collaborate with authorities at the local, provincial and regional levels, if need be, in the design and implementation of the programmes of activities within MAP Phase II.
- The Contracting Parties will also call upon to participate in the activities of MAP Phase II those NGOs which are active in the fields of environmental protection and sustainable development, as well as those representing economic activities.
- In the implementation of sustainable development, priority will be given to building up institutional capacities and coordinating policies at national, provincial or local levels, as appropriate. In this connection, particular attention will be paid to: the implementation of existing legal instruments, such as the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols, the development economic instrument for integrated management of resources, the strict planning of coastal areas and finally to the management of natural resources.
- In particular, with the Barcelona Declaration the Contracting Parties confirmed the objective of integrating the environmental component in development policies and referred to the recommendation of Agenda MED 21 and the specific MAP instruments (Conventions and Protocols, specialised programmes like MED POL and Regional Activity Centres). They also decided to set up the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD) and adopted a ten-year activity framework (1996-2005); its priority areas are briefly the following:
  - integration of environment and development;
  - focus of strategy for sustainable development.

### **III.1 Integration of environment and development**

8. The integration proposals decided by the Contracting Parties in Barcelona in 1995 concern on the one hand taking into consideration the environmental parameter in the processes of socio-economic development, and on the other sustainable and integrated management of natural resources.

The priority fields selected by the Contracting Parties are the following:

#### **III.1.1 Economic activities and environment**

##### **9. Agriculture, forests and fisheries**

- (i) participate in programmes and activities of international organisations, especially FAO on agricultural and rural development, fisheries and forests in the Mediterranean.
- (ii) promote the design of Mediterranean strategies at national and regional levels based on controlled, appropriate and rational use of seeds, fertilisers and pesticides, including the development of better varieties of seeds.
- (iii) develop the use of irrigation techniques which save water.
- (iv) identify pilot areas to develop applications and exchanges of expertise on sustainable agricultural development

##### **10. Industry and energy**

- (i) identify the best available techniques which respect the environment and the best available environmental practices, by focusing on availability, accessibility, cost and effectiveness, especially in the production and use of energy, paper, tanneries and derivative products, cement factories, metallurgy, food industry and chemical industrial plants (organic and inorganic).
- (ii) promote the development and implementation of programmes for the transfer, adaptation and control of appropriate technologies, focusing on clean and safe methods without forgetting the additional costs involved.
- (iii) develop and implement programmes for the reduction of polluting emissions and the control of industrial residues.
- (iv) promote and facilitate the use of new and renewable sources of energy in the domestic sector, both public and private.

##### **11. Transport**

- (i) promote the setting up, in conformity with the MARPOL Convention, of port reception facilities for the collection of solid and liquid wastes generated by ships.
- (ii) promote the setting up of systems to assist and monitor shipping.

- (iii) promote regional cooperation to monitor the implementation by ships of the relevant international conventions concerning marine pollution by ships.

## 12. Tourism

- (i) develop actions to manage rationally tourism in coastal areas.
- (ii) design and implement national programmes to diversify tourism.
- (iii) promote tourist development which respects the environment and the cultural heritage.

## 13. Urban development and environment

- (i) encourage urban local authorities to apply strategies of sustainable development, in conformity with Agenda 21 and the Recommendations of the UN Conference "Habitat II".
- (ii) encourage urban policies in energy saving, non-polluting form of transport, waste management, sustainable use of water and the setting up of urban amenities, especially in poorly assimilated neighbourhoods.
- (iii) develop and implement programmes for the rehabilitation of areas affected by recent hostilities.

High priority is given to industrial and urban waste management.

## 14. Waste management

- (i) design and adopt national programmes on the reduction and environmental management of hazardous wastes on the basis of methodology manuals to achieve a type of management which is environmentally rational.
- (ii) design and adopt national programmes on environmental management of urban wastes on the basis of methodology manuals to achieve a type of management which is environmentally rational.
- (iii) promote the setting up of controlled landfills or treatment plants in all coastal cities of more than 100,000.
- (iv) promote the setting up of at least one secure storage facility and, when necessary, of a treatment plant for hazardous wastes in the Mediterranean countries.
- (v) ban exportation of toxic wastes and other residues, including radioactive materials, by OECD member states to the Mediterranean states, non-members of the European Union.
- (vi) encourage measures against strong marine and coastal wastes, especially persistent synthetic materials.

### III.1.2 Sustainable management of natural resources

#### 15. Integrated water management

- (i) promote the setting up in each country of bodies for integrated water management, based as far as possible on river basins.
- (ii) promote measures for the protection of water resources and prevention of drought.
- (iii) - promote tools for rational management of water demand.
- (iv) propose measures and techniques on sustainable use of water for the various uses.
- (v) promote the establishment of national qualitative and quantitative monitoring systems of water resources.
- (vi) promote treatment and appropriate re-use of wastewater and blackish water.
- (vii) promote the installation of infrastructures for treating municipal wastewater in 100 coastal Mediterranean cities corresponding to the polluting load generated by approximately 10 million people.

#### 16. Soil management and combatting erosion and desertification

- (i) evaluate and monitor the vulnerability of soil resources.
- (ii) protect and maintain soils by taking preventive measures.
- (iii) promote the rehabilitation of degraded land, the restoration of plant cover and combating erosion and desertification.
- (iv) promote the application of the Convention on Desertification.

#### 17. Management of living resources

- (i) promote sustainable development of forest resources and participate in the Action Programme on Mediterranean forests.
- (ii) build national capacities and develop national or regional contingency plans to fight forest fires and promote appropriate combating techniques and tools.
- (iii) prepare appropriate measures for the protection *in situ* of genetic resources.
- (iv) promote the setting up of a gene bank and the rational use of genetic resources at county level.
- (v) design and endorse national strategies for the conservation of biodiversity.

- (vi) prepare inventories of the elements of biological diversity of Mediterranean interest, lists of threatened species and sites with natural or cultural value.
- (vii) promote the conservation and rational management of Mediterranean wetlands.
- (viii) encourage the adoption of national inspection mechanisms and tools of real estate policy to protect the coastal areas that must be preserved which take into consideration the specific conditions of each country.
- (ix) in collaboration with other organisations concerned, to implement the action plans on the monk seal, marine turtles and marine cetaceans, and on management of protected areas.

The most important integration effort should focus on the coastal areas where socio-economic and environmental challenges are concentrated, which makes the following points particularly noteworthy:

18. Integrated management of coastal areas and conservation of landscapes and sites
- (i) develop appropriate measures and techniques, in particular the remote sensing, for integrated coastal management and the protection of coasts.
  - (ii) build up in each country the capacity in these areas, including through training.
  - (iii) design and implement programmes on coastal area management, especially in pilot areas.

19. Marine pollution

Combating marine pollution at the level of land-based sources and maritime transport is specific, since the Mediterranean receives pollutants of every origin. In the framework of MAP Phase II, the following objectives have been laid down:

- (i) assess, on the base of common methodologies, pollutant inputs into the sea through water course, the air and diffuse sources and evaluate in each country the main sources of marine pollution.
- (ii) prepare quality assessments for the marine environment, both at national and regional levels.
- (iii) promote the reduction of pollutant inputs into the marine environment, especially through capacity building for the implementation of the 13 specific measures adopted.
- (iv) prepare and adopt guidelines on dumping dredging spoils.
- (v) promote the setting up of national, bilateral and/or sub-regional systems of advance planning and intervention in cases of accidental pollution of the marine environment.

### III.2 Focus of strategy for sustainable development

20. The development of a Mediterranean strategy for sustainable development which would involve all the actors concerned and entail great coherence of the activities ongoing and planned while avoiding overlaps through careful articulation of competences from the global to the local. In effect, one must develop a strategy which is based on the rational organisation of complementarities and synergies beyond the juxtaposition of programmes.

21. Drawing up the strategy and making it known:

As a guide, the European Commission (1992) "Towards Sustainable Development" and the World Bank (1994) "Forging a partnership for environmental action" have developed as is shown below strategies for sustainable development:

- the former for the member states of the European Union
- the latter for some countries of the Middle East and North Africa including the coastal Mediterranean states.

22. The tools available

In MAP Phase II, the Contracting Parties have made the first steps for a Mediterranean strategy of sustainable development by considering *a priori* that the Barcelona Convention and its protocols constitute the first legal bases.

Furthermore, they confirmed the need to ensure the "development of adequate instruments for the observation and evaluation of environment and development in the Mediterranean Basin", especially through the Mediterranean Observatory for Environment and Development (MOED) which should produce the relevant indicators.

23. The parties also stressed the importance of information in order to:

- (i) promote the development of methods on the application of the participators approach to the decision making process in the field of sustainable development at national and local levels.
- (ii) intensify the dissemination of environmental information and on Phase II of the Mediterranean Action Plan to governments and national and international institutions; promote a greater awareness of the public opinion in these matters.
- (iii) prepare texts for the non-specialist on scientific and technical data collected in MAP Phase II, promote and encourage the preparation at national level of texts for the layman to support awareness campaigns on environmental issues and sustainable development.

24. The Parties finally asked "the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development", in which NGOs will be duly presented, to examine the possibility of setting up a special fund for projects concerning nature conservation and integrated coastal management, which would supplement the Mediterranean Trust Fund and would contribute to the mobilisation of additional financial resources as needed".

However, the Parties did not explicitly tackle the setting up of other instruments which would facilitate the development of a sustainable development strategy, namely:

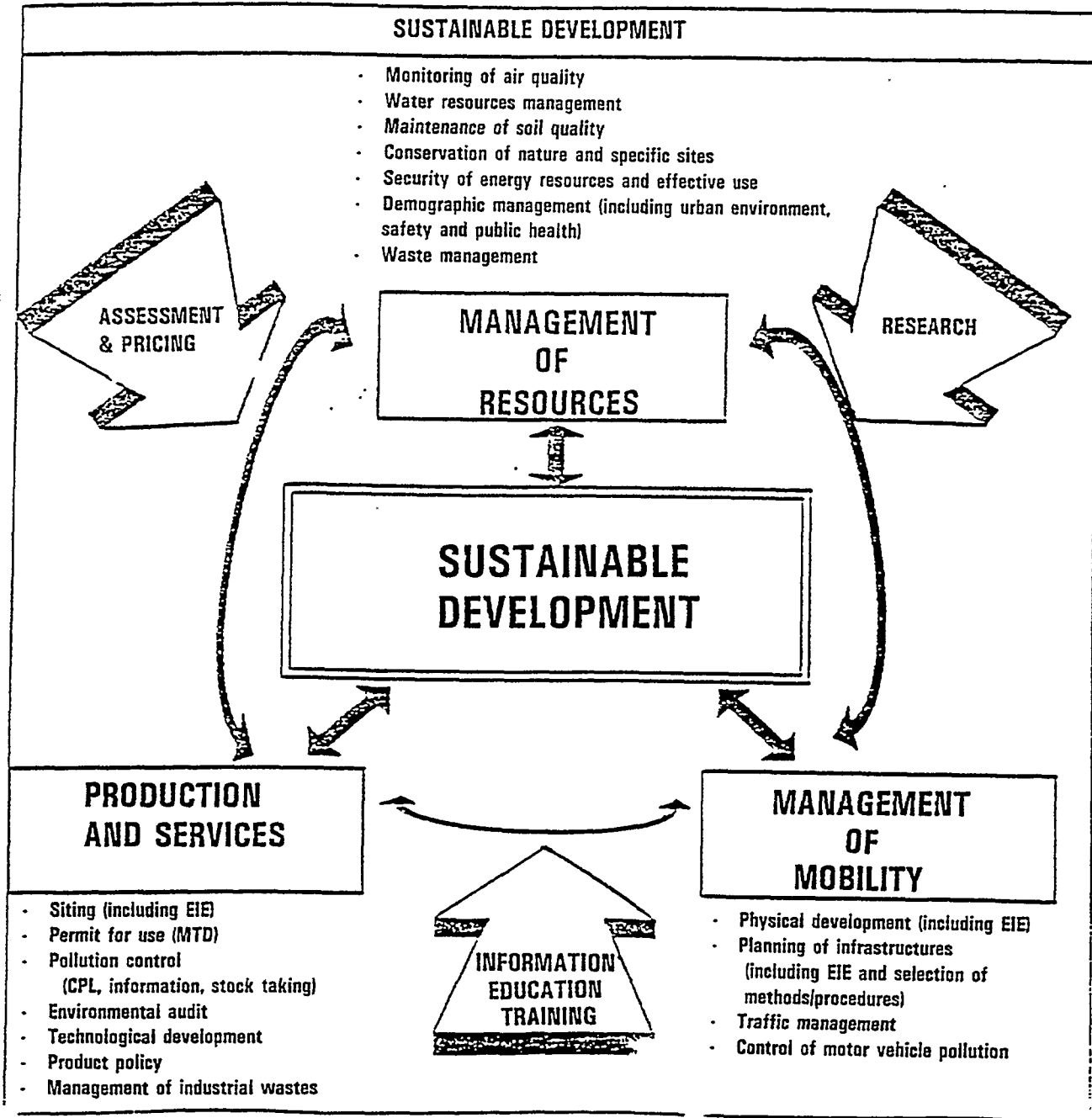
- research/development which would for example show the impact of the environment on development and human health;
- professional training for the public and private sector involved in sustainable development;
- the economic approach to design financial and tax incentives;
- the development of tools for real estate management and physical planning (coasts).

25. Mobilisation of actors

The concept of sharing of responsibilities presupposes an active participation of all financial actors on a much larger base, i.e. public authorities, private and public enterprises of all types and especially individuals as citizens and consumers. The ultimate goal of interactively mobilising these economic actors (and of the use of a larger amount of tools, including market incentives) is to establish a new balance between the short term interests of persons, businesses and administration and the long term interests of society as a whole.

26. The subsidiarity principle and the concept of responsibility sharing which would guide the search for this new balance must be carefully analysed in order to design national strategies for sustainable development. Thus, it is important to clarify institutional responsibilities in respect of environmental protection and sustainable development between the states and the territorial communities.





**Priority action areas for sustainable development (World Bank 1994)**

**REINFORCE THE MEANS AND ROLE OF INSTITUTIONS IN CHARGE OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

*Give priority to three areas: policies, coordination and coercive action*

- reinforce the means of officials in charge of environment
- set up/reinforce the legal mechanisms
- set up monitoring systems (especially in hot spots)
- ensure compliance with subcontracts

*Ensure public access to environmental information*

- disseminate information on air quality, release of dangerous substances and wastes
- organise consultations on environmental problems with the parties involved, local NGOs and the media

**CONTINUE MANAGING THE LIMITED NATURAL RESOURCES**

*Water*

- establish an arbitration system among sectors and groups of users for a more equitable sharing of the right to water resources
- speed up the adoption of tried technologies for a sensible use of water resources
- increase prices and decrease water subsidies

*Arable land, ecosystems and cultural heritage*

- clarify and secure the rights of real estate
- let the market determine the price of fertilisers, pesticides and other agrochemical products
- regulate the protection of land which has become vulnerable, the ecosystems of primary importance and cultural heritage

*Energy*

- accelerate the adoption of tried technologies for effective use of energy
- accelerate more to natural gas
- launch conversion to low sulphur fuel
- promote conversion to lead free gasoline
- abolish all energy subsidies

**START SOLVING RECENT POLLUTION PROBLEMS**

*Prevent pollution from new sources*

- lift barriers to the adoption of non-polluting technologies in industry and transport (import restrictions, subsidies)
- incorporate the social cost of pollution

*Clean up hot spots*

- list environmental problems in order of priority and draw up the most economical plans to mitigate pollution
- close down public enterprises which are heavy polluters and are not viable

IV. METHODS OF WORK AND SELECTION OF PRIORITY FIELDS OF THE COMMISSION

1. As stipulated by its Terms of Reference, the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD) was established "as an advisory body to make proposals to the Contracting Parties within the framework of the Mediterranean Action Plan" (UNEP(OCA)/MED IG.8/7). In particular, the Commission is:
  - (a) 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 the institutions implementing activities related to sustainable development in the Mediterranean;
  - (b) to enhance regional cooperation and rationalise the inter-governmental decision-making capacity in the Mediterranean basin for the integration of environment and development issues.
2. Moreover, in discharging its functions, the Commission shall:
  - (a) maintain relations with the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development (UNCSD) and shall facilitate the exchange of information and experience among national and regional commissions on sustainable development;
  - (b) take into account the experience and expertise of the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development, and shall submit relevant reports to the United Nations Commission through the Contracting Parties' meetings on any issues that may be of interest for sustainable development in the Mediterranean region;
  - (c) as far as possible and taking into account the particular needs of the Mediterranean countries, utilise the existing reporting system of the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development, with a view to streamlining and avoiding duplication of work.
3. In order to utilise the experience and expertise of the UNCSD, and with a view also, to streamlining and avoiding duplication of work, it is pertinent to briefly, review the methods of work of the UNCSD.

Agenda 21 and the UNCSD

4. The UNCSD was set up on the recommendation of the Earth Summit of 1992 to support and encourage action by government, business, industry and other non-governmental groups to learn about social and economic changes needed for Sustainable Development. Its mandate is to review the implementation of the Earth Summit agreements, provide policy guidance to governments and major groups involved in sustainable development and strengthen Agenda 21 by devising additional strategies where necessary. It also promotes dialogue and builds partnerships between governments and major groups which are seen as the key to achieving

sustainable development worldwide.

5. In its first session, the UNCSD adopted a multiyear thematic programme of work, adjustable when and where necessary, and build upon thematic and cross-sectoral clusters, based on an integrated approach to environment, by looking at the cross-linkages between and amongst sectoral and cross-sectoral components of relevant chapters of Agenda 21.
6. The UNCSD has been monitoring Agenda 21 in stages. Each sectoral issue has been reviewed once between 1993 and 1996, while developments on most cross-sectoral issues have been considered each year until the fourth session in 1996. The General Assembly of the United Nations will hold a special session (June 1997) to review overall progress following the Earth Summit (Rio +5).

The different clusters are as follows:

A.	Critical elements of sustainability	Ch.2,3,4,5
B.	Financial resources and mechanisms	Ch. 33
C.	Education, science, technologies, cooperation capacity building	Ch. 16, 34, 35, 36, 37
D.	Decision making structures	Ch. 8, 38, 39, 40
E.	Role of major groups	Ch. 23 to 32
F.	Health, human settlements, freshwater	Ch. 6, 7, 18, 21
G.	Land, desertification, forest, biodiversity	Ch. 10 to 15
H.	Atmosphere, oceans/seas	Ch. 9, 17
I.	Toxic chemicals and wastes	Ch. 19, 20, 22

7. The programme of work adopted in 1993 proposed to review these clusters as follows:

1994 A-B-C-D-E-F----I  
1995 A-B-C-D-E--G---  
1996 A-B-C-D-E----H--  
1997 Overall review of Agenda 21 and Special Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations.

#### UNCSD's method of work

8. The UNCSD meets each year, from 1993, for a two week period. Fifty three UN member countries are invited to attend the session. Concerned countries can attend for three years. UN bodies regularly participate and contribute to its activities. Other countries and major groups can participate as observers.

During a session, a high level segment, an integral part of the UNCSD session and usually composed of Ministers, meets for up to three days, to provide necessary political impetus.

Several months (3 to 6 months) prior to the session, national governments, and relevant regional and international organisations, and major groups, are invited to prepare specific reports on their activities to follow up Agenda 21, focussing on ongoing and future projects and initiatives related to UNCSD's session programme. All reports are to be summarised in a synthetic report prepared by the Secretariat.

9. Governments are expected to provide information, whereas the Secretariat recommends contents relevancy and format, in view of a standardised format that governments would follow. Guidelines for national reporting are sent six months prior to the session. Governments are encouraged to adopt them, but not obliged, and submit their reports three months prior to the session.
10. Reports submitted annually by Governments, are the main basis for monitoring progress and identifying problems faced by countries. To help countries formulate policies for sustainability and regulate their input, it is expected that a "menu" of indicators, from which Governments will choose those appropriate to local conditions, will be used by all countries by 1997 in reports to the Commission.
11. UN bodies have been key partners and very active in the UNCSD's activities, as well as major groups. Their association in cross-sectoral issues has allowed a better integration of environment and development. Throughout the year, meetings and workshops are hosted, and activities initiated by Governments, often as partnerships between developed and developing countries or between Governments and major groups. The results of these intersessional meetings are used in formulating proposals and reports for the Commission to advance international discussion on key issues. Moreover, intersessional Working Groups have been set up by the Commission to give specialized attention to key issues and make recommendations for action. The number of those Working Groups, up to three, is decided during the UNCSD annual sessions.
12. Analytical reports prepared by the Secretariat are structured on:
  - progress made in implementation of Agenda 21;
  - highlights on cross-sectoral components;
  - integration, interrelationship;
  - experience, capacity building, decision making;
  - major issues, trends, problems, constraints;
  - availability of and needs for human, technical and financial resources;
  - expectations from international organizations.
13. Specific attention is given to indicators in reporting system, in view of elaborating realistic, usable and easily understandable indicators that would provide a basis for a meaningful assessment of progress towards sustainable development.
14. To achieve greater complementary and synergy and also to avoid duplication and ensure more efficient use of resources, the UN system has streamlined and (re)organized its "machinery" and other inter-agency coordination arrangements. To enhance this inter-agency coordination in the UN system, a UN Inter-Agency Committee on Sustainable Development was established to identify major policy issues and ensure more effective system-wide cooperation and coordination in the follow-up of Earth Summit.

15. To follow the progress of work throughout the year and from one session to another, various focal points within the UNCSD Secretariat have been entitled of different subjects from the programme of work. To prepare relevant reports on specific issues of this programme, or to coordinate its preparation, Task Managers in and out Secretariat, based on their areas of expertise, have been designated. Throughout the various sessions, their number has increased, as work became more specific or new issues were considered. The Task Managers for the respective chapters of Agenda 21 are:

Ch.2 UNCTAD	Ch.12 UNEP	Ch.22 IAEA
Ch.3 DPCSD	Ch.13 FAO	Ch.23 DPCSD
Ch.4 DPCSD	Ch.14 FAO	Ch.33 DPCSD
Ch.5 UNFPA	Ch.15 UNEP	Ch.34 DPCSD
Ch.6 WHO	Ch.16 UNIDO	Ch.35 UNESCO
Ch.7 UNCHS/Habitat	Ch.17 ACC/FAO+UNESCO	Ch.36 UNESCO
Ch.8 DPCSD	Ch.18 ACC/DPCSD	Ch.37 UNDP
Ch.9 UNEP/WMO	Ch.19 UNEP	Ch.38 DPCSD
Ch.10 FAO	Ch.20 UNEP	Ch.39 DPCSD
Ch.11 FAO	Ch.21 UNCHS/Habitat	Ch.40 DPCSD

(ACC= Administrative Committee on Coordination, UN's highest inter-agency body)

Task Managers are expected to provide innovative proposals on ways and means to achieve more efficient results, including multi-agency joint programming, within available resources.

16. The Bureau, elected at the beginning of a session and composed of five members, keeps on working throughout the inter-sessional process, from one session to another, and can meet up to once a month (average 8 to 10 times a year). In addition to that, the Chairman meets frequently with the UNCSD Secretariat for regular briefing, better cooperation and coordination. Moreover, the UNCSD is assisted by a high-level Advisory Board composed from 20 eminent personalities, *intuitae personae*, who meet twice a year, in general.
17. In carrying out its mandate, the UNCSD established itself as a key intergovernmental and central political forum, for monitoring and review, in a integrated and coordinated manner, of the implementation of Agenda 21 and other Rio commitments.

#### From UNCSD to MCSD

18. The Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention have attended the various sessions, as members or observers. Therefore, the Mediterranean, even though not identified as such, neither in UN nor in UNCSD sessions, has been well represented and one could assume that Mediterranean countries have been following the UNCSD process, when they were not directly associated.
19. Extensive and intensive conceptual work has been done by the UNCSD. Except for very specific issues and if absolutely necessary, the MCSD should not embark itself in conceptual approaches. Through better defined issues (than at the global level) and practical/realistic mediterranean aspects, MCSD ought to go at least a step forward in effective and efficient implementation of policies and actions, through

monitoring and evaluation of implementation and assistance where necessary. Once recommendations are issued, the implementation process remains a national question depending upon national willingness and availability of resources.

20. More attention needs to be paid to addressing the driving forces that impact on the sustainable management of natural resources. The crucial link between the driving forces -economic growth and trade, consumption and production patterns, population growth - and resource management are the economic sectors that often define the way that policy - making and implementation are organized. Therefore, proper consideration of natural resource management issues should be combined with an equal emphasis on sectoral policy development. This would ensure that sustainable development issues are taken into consideration in a systemic and consistent manner.
21. Considering the specific Mediterranean context, the region can play an important role in devolving implementing actions from global to regional level, and in decentralizing responsibilities from national to local level where appropriate. It could be an excellent "case study" through which the UNCSD could test its recommendations concerning relevant chapters of Agenda 21.
22. Rather than looking to review every chapter of Agenda MED 21, the MCSD should focus on a limited number of key issues, in particular those where it is felt that real progress could be done. For general aspects as well as for specific issues, the MCSD should enhance the exchange of information on concrete experiences among countries, NGOs, major groups and international organisations, collecting sound information on the effectiveness of policies and practices, and advocating the use of those that have proven successful.
23. At the global level, the UNCSD is expected to no longer review systematically the Agenda 21 chapters but to concentrate on priority topics such as transport, energy, tourism and industry from 1997. From UNCSD's experience, it appears that the MCSD would find some interest in adopting and adapting several "segments" of UNCSD's activities structure, in the framework of a year-round process fed by all partners.

These "segments" concern:

- the Task Managers system that has been one of the most positive models of system-wide cooperation for Agenda 21, an effective mechanism to support the work of the UNCSD and leading to a greater synergy in the UN system in the area of sustainable development.
- the Inter-Agency Committee on Sustainable Development
- the Ad-hoc Inter-Sessional Technical Working Groups and similar initiatives by governments, major groups and international organisations;
- the Reporting System (mainly involving governments and major groups).

24. Considering the Mediterranean region, four sets of "instruments and/or programmes" can be identified:
- a. International Conventions/Agreements, Agenda 21, etc
  - b. Barcelona Convention and Protocols dealing with sustainable development issues
  - c. MAP (II), Agenda MED 21, Euro-med cooperation, METAP
  - d. National strategies/plans/Commission/instruments.

Rather than the chapters of Agenda MED 21, these sets will guide and structure the work of the MCSD. A multi year programme of work built upon above sets, and adopting the systemic and integrated approach of environment and development, can be designed up to the year 2000, leaving the possibility of adjusting it as specific issues might arise. As far as possible and where relevant, each selected issue will be specific entry to a multi-sectoral approach.

25. For a one year period, 2 to 3 major Mediterranean sectoral or cross-sectoral issues should be selected, in addition to the continuous follow-up of the "set of indicators tool", and some specific reporting. Within available resources and others to be identified and raised, in addition to governments/organisations/groups initiatives, technical inter-sessional working groups will be organised. In some cases, it would be interesting to give lead to a country for certain issues under review, even to members from the major groups.
26. Considering that the MCSD has been established within MAP and to assist MAP in its activities towards sustainable development in the Mediterranean, the thematic activities, from the multiyear programme of work, should come out with practical and realistic action-oriented recommendations to be considered by the Contracting Parties.
27. The hereunder proposed general structure and method of work for the MCSD will probably need some adaptations when applied to certain specific thematic activities.
28. An evaluation of the Commission's activities and impacts will be undertaken at the end of the multiyear programme of work so as to adjust and improve efficiency.

**Proposal on MCSD's structure and method of work:**

29. **Substantive issues** It is suggested that the Commission should concentrate its work during the first year on 2 or 3 topics, sectoral or cross-sectoral, selected from the priorities mentioned in this document. In addition, the following horizontal topics are suggested:
- a. Information system on environment and sustainable development built upon, *inter alia*,
    - selection of first set of indicators
    - reporting system
    - report to UNCSD for its 1997 meetings (April, fifth session, and June, special UN General Assembly "Rio +5").



- b. Institutional aspects of sustainable development, including capacity building at the national and local levels.
  - c. Emerging patterns in the economies of the region (including the creation of Euro-Mediterranean free trade area) and their impact on the environment.
  - d. Financing mechanisms of the sustainable development
30. **MCSD's Secretariat** MAP to prepare for, coordinate and follow the Commission's preparatory activities and to summarize the various reports received; with the full involvement of MAP Regional Activity Centres (RAC).
31. **Bureau of the Commission** The Bureau, elected at the beginning of each session and composed of six members, will act as the high advisory body for the Commission and keeps on working throughout the inter-sessional process, and can meet twice or three times every year. In addition, the President of the Bureau should meet on a regular basis with the MCSD Secretariat for regular briefing and coordination.
32. **Task Managers** from in (including RACs) and out MEDU (including member countries, NGO groups, regional/international organisations).
33. **Thematic Working Groups** Countries and partner institutions will be encouraged to organise working groups related to the programme.
34. **Reporting system** Local/national/regional authorities and groups will be encouraged to submit reports on selected issues and legal instruments three months before the meeting, according to contents and formats to be suggested by MCSD Secretariat - Duplication with the UNCSD reporting shall be avoided. Contracting Parties and partners should send a copy of their reports submitted to UNCSD, to the Secretariat of the MCSD.

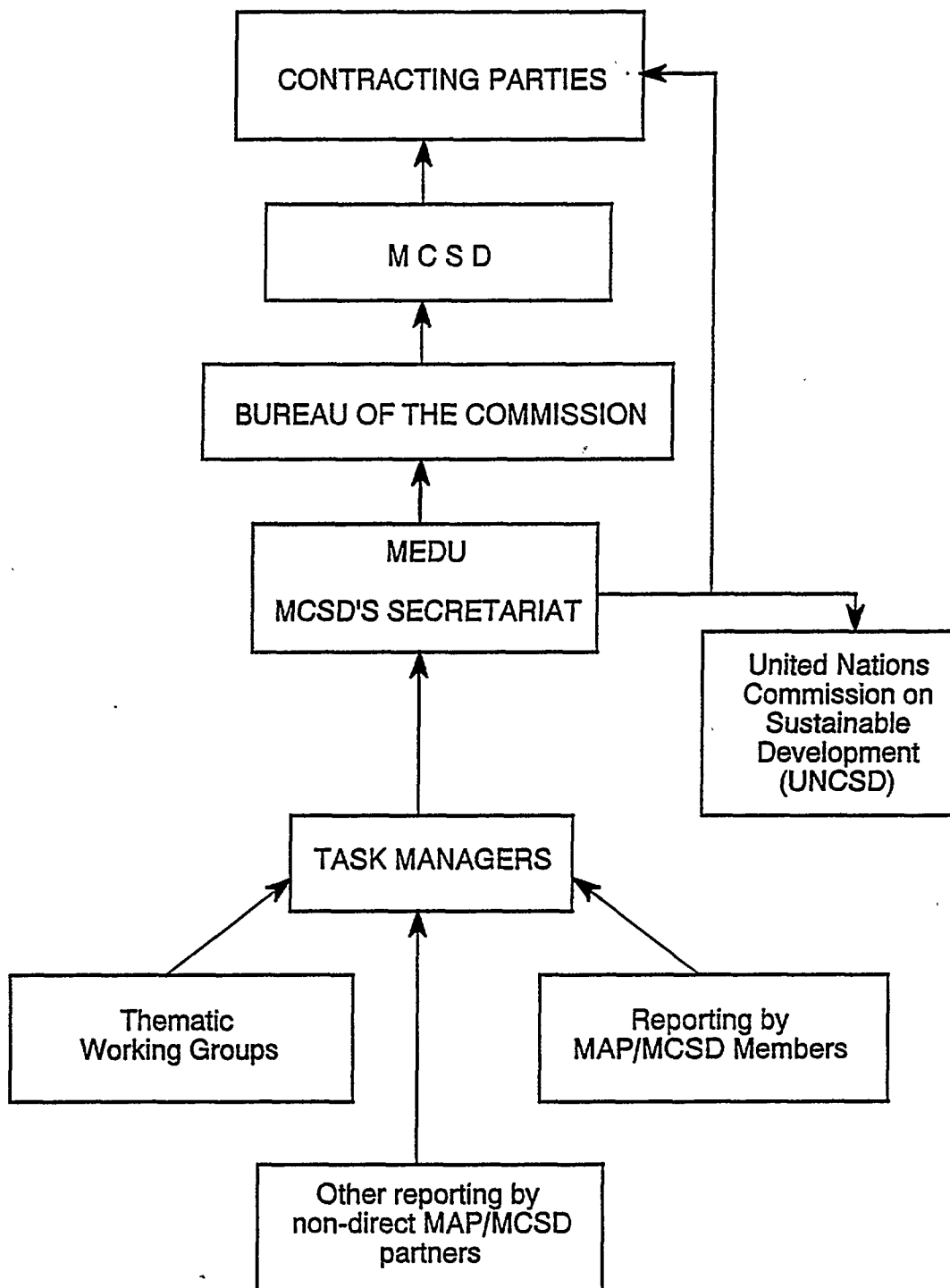
Contracting Parties and partners as well as other concerned governments or their "aid" agencies would be also invited to report on their bilateral cooperation. It is also suggested that MAP should attend UNCSD meetings as an observer and *vice-versa*.

35. An organigramme for the MCSD is proposed hereafter.

**Cooperation and partnership**

36. A diversified use of Mediterranean experts will be made to assist, when necessary, Task Managers to achieve requested activities. North-South - East - West, in other words Mediterranean partnerships should be the backbone of all activities.

### SUGGESTED ORGANIZATION CHART FOR THE MCSD



## ANNEX I

### MEDITERRANEAN COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT TERMS OF REFERENCE

#### Introduction

1. In accordance with the recommendation of the Tunis Ministerial Conference, held in November 1994, as approved by the Conference of Plenipotentiaries meeting in Barcelona in June 1995, a Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD) is hereby established as an advisory body to make proposals to the Contracting Parties within the framework of the Mediterranean Action Plan.

#### A. Purpose of the Commission

2. The purpose of the Commission is:
  - (a) 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 the institutions implementing activities related to sustainable development in the Mediterranean;
  - (b) to enhance regional cooperation and rationalize the inter-governmental decision-making capacity in the Mediterranean basin for the integration of environment and development issues.

#### B. Functions

3. The functions of the Commission shall be:
  - (a) to assist the Contracting Parties by making proposals on the formulation and implementation of a regional strategy of sustainable development in the Mediterranean, taking into consideration the resolutions of the Tunis and Barcelona Conferences and the context of Agenda MED 21 and MAP Phase II;
  - (b) to consider and review information provided by the Contracting Parties, in accordance with Article 20 of the Barcelona Convention, including  
  
periodic communications or reports regarding the activities they undertake to implement Agenda MED 21, and the problems they encounter, such as problems related to the integration of environment into national policies,

capacity-building, financial resources, technology transfer, and other relevant environment and development issues;

- (c) to review at regular intervals the cooperation of MAP with the World Bank and other international financial institutions, as well as the European Union, and to explore ways and means for the strengthening of such cooperation, and particularly to achieve the objectives of Chapter 33 of Agenda MED 21;
- (d) to consider information regarding the progress made in the implementation of relevant environmental conventions, which could be made available by the relevant conferences or by the parties;
- (e) to identify technologies and knowledge of an innovative nature for sustainable development in the Mediterranean region and to provide advice on the various means for their most effective use, in order to facilitate exchanges among the Contracting Parties and to enhance capacities for national development;
- (f) to provide reports and appropriate recommendations to the meetings of the Contracting Parties, through the MAP Secretariat, on the basis of a comprehensive analysis of reports and issues related to the implementation of a regional strategy related to MAP Phase II and Agenda MED 21;
- (g) to undertake a four-year strategic assessment and evaluation of the implementation by the Contracting Parties of Agenda MED 21 and decisions of the meetings of the Contracting Parties and of actions by the Contracting Parties relevant to sustainable development in the Mediterranean region and propose relevant recommendations thereon;  
the first strategic review should be undertaken for the year 2000 (with ministerial participation), with the objective of achieving an integrated overview of the implementation of Agenda MED 21, examining emerging policy issues and providing the necessary political impetus.  
The Commission shall make the best use of the main results of MAP activity centres in the field of sustainable development, and those of the MAP Mediterranean Environment and Development Observatory, as well as those of national environmental observatories;
- (h) to assume such other functions as are entrusted to it by the meetings of the Contracting Parties, to further the purposes of the Barcelona Convention, MAP Phase II and Agenda MED 21.

4. The rules of procedure of the Commission shall be the Rules of Procedure of the meetings and Conferences of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention, until the rules of procedure of the Commission are proposed by the Commission and adopted by the meeting of the Contracting Parties, considering that the Commission shall not have any voting system.

C. Composition

5. The Commission shall be composed of a maximum of 36 members, consisting of representatives from each Contracting Party to the Barcelona Convention and representatives of local authorities, socio-economic actors and non-governmental organizations working in the fields of environment and of sustainable development. All representatives shall participate in the Commission on an equal footing.

D. Observers

6. In accordance with the Rules of Procedure adopted by the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention, any State which is a member of the United Nations or the specialized agencies, and any other inter-governmental organizations the activities of which are related to the functions of the Commission, may participate in the Commission's work as an observer.

E. Meetings of the Commission and responsibilities of the Secretariat

7. The Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development shall hold ordinary meetings at least once every year, up to the year 2000, then shall meet at least once every two years. The meetings shall be convened at the premises of the Coordinating Unit of MAP, without prejudice to the convening of its meetings in other Mediterranean venues upon a recommendation of the Commission approved by the Meeting of the Contracting Parties.
8. At the opening of each session, the Commission shall elect a Bureau composed of a President, four Vice-Presidents and a Rapporteur, from among its members on the basis of an equitable geographical distribution and among the various groups.
9. The Coordinating Unit of MAP, serving as the Secretariat of the Commission, shall provide for each session of the Commission an analytical report containing information on relevant activities to implement Agenda MED 21 and other sustainable development activities recommended by the meetings of the Contracting Parties, the progress achieved and emerging issues to be addressed.

F. Relationship with the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development and with national and regional commissions on sustainable development

10. The Commission shall maintain relations with the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development, and shall facilitate the exchange of information and experience among national and regional commissions on sustainable development.
11. The Commission, in discharging its functions, shall take into account the experience and expertise of the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development, and shall submit relevant reports to the United Nations Commission through the Contracting Parties' meetings on any issues that may be of interest for sustainable development in the Mediterranean region.

12. The Commission and the Contracting Parties shall, as far as possible and taking into account the particular needs of the Mediterranean countries, utilize the existing reporting system of the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development, with a view to streamlining and avoiding duplication of work.

G. Relations with specialized agencies, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations

13. The Commission shall, through the Secretariat, strengthen its activities with the relevant United Nations specialized agencies and other inter-governmental bodies within the United Nations System, including international, regional and sub-regional financial and development institutions, in particular regarding projects for the implementation of the regional Mediterranean strategy related to Agenda MED 21 and the decisions of the Contracting Parties.
14. The Commission shall, through the Secretariat, enhance the dialogue with, and the participation of, relevant non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and the independent sector, and receive and analyse their inputs within the context of the overall implementation of the Mediterranean regional strategy for sustainable development.

## ANNEX II

### MEDITERRANEAN COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (MCSD)

#### COMPOSITION OF THE COMMISSION \*

##### (a) NUMBER OF REPRESENTATIVES

1. The Commission shall be composed of 36 members, consisting of representatives from each Contracting Party to the Barcelona Convention and representatives of local authorities, socio-economic actors and non-governmental organizations working in the fields of environment and sustainable development.
2. In particular:
  - a. each Contracting Party to the Barcelona Convention shall be represented by one high-level representative (total 21), who may be accompanied by such alternates and advisers as may be required, in order to ensure interdisciplinary participation of relevant ministerial bodies of the Contracting Parties (e.g. ministries of environment, tourism, economy, development, industry, finance, energy, etc.).
  - b. each of the three categories mentioned in section C.5 of the text of the Terms of Reference, i.e. local authorities, socio-economic actors and non-governmental organizations, shall be represented by five representatives (total 15) and an equal number of alternates, to be selected by the meeting of the Contracting Parties.
3. All 36 members shall participate in the Commission on an equal footing.

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\* This criteria may be modified by the Contracting Parties in the light of experience.

(b) METHOD OF NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES OTHER THAN THOSE REPRESENTING THE CONTRACTING PARTIES

a. Method of nomination of candidates

(i) local authorities

As the legal and administrative status of local authorities differs from one country to another, the representatives of the local authorities, their groups or networks, will be selected through proposals from the governments of the Contracting Parties, which transmit their candidatures to the Secretariat of MAP.

(ii) Socio-economic actors

As the legal and administrative status of the socio-economic actors differs from one country to another, the representatives of the socio-economic actors, their groups or networks, will be selected through proposals from the governments of the Contracting Parties, which transmit their candidatures to the Secretariat of MAP.

(iii) NGO's

1. The criteria and the list of MAP/NGO partners approved by the Ninth Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties (Barcelona, 5-8 June 1995), shall be used as the reference text for any NGO that wishes to participate in the Commission's work.
2. Three categories of NGO's shall be represented in the Commission:
  - NGOs with international scope and multidisciplinary interest recognized in their status, especially those contributing to Mediterranean cooperation and concerned with matters covering a substantial portion of MAP's field of activity;
  - NGOs with regional scope covering more than one country in the whole Mediterranean area and covering a portion of MAP's field of activity;
  - NGOs with national or local scope covering a portion of MAP's field of activity.



3. The selection of five NGOs from this category will be done through NGO networks in the region and through direct applications to be submitted to the MAP Secretariat.

b. Method of nomination of members of the MCSD

1. The meeting of the Contracting Parties shall nominate the members of the Commission, other than those representing the Contracting Parties.
2. For the first meeting of the Commission (Fez, Morocco, December 1996), the Bureau of the Contracting Parties shall make the selection of the members of the Commission, following consultation with the Contracting Parties.

(c) SELECTION CRITERIA FOR MEMBERS OTHER THAN THOSE REPRESENTING THE CONTRACTING PARTIES

The following general selection criteria are proposed:

1. The criteria and the list of MAP/NGO partners, approved by the Ninth Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties held in Barcelona, 5-8 June 1995 (document: UNEP(OCA)/MED IG.5/16), shall be used as a reference text for selection of members representing NGOs.
2. Priority for selection shall be given to Mediterranean local authorities, socio-economic actors and NGOs that are concerned with environmental and sustainable development issues in the Mediterranean.
3. The principle of equitable geographical distribution should be respected (north/south and east/west).
4. Fragile and island ecosystems will be given due consideration.
5. With reference to the three specific categories, the following are the selection criteria, giving priority to the groups or networks concerned:

(i) local authorities

1. Local authorities to be selected should be concerned with environmental and sustainable development issues.

(ii) Socio-economic actors

1. Selection within this group should take into consideration the major problems and decisive factors in the Mediterranean as well as the following factors:
  - north/south representation
  - developed/developing countries
  - rural/urban
  - past and current activities at the Mediterranean level.
2. Priority of selection shall be given to socio-economic networks active in the Mediterranean.

(iii) NGOs

1. The members representing NGOs should be selected from the list of MAP/NGO partners.
2. The members should be selected from among three NGO categories:
  - NGOs with global scope
  - NGOs with regional scope
  - NGOs with national and local scope
3. The NGOs to be selected should have a concrete and action-oriented approach towards the Mediterranean.

(d) DURATION OF THE MANDATE

1. The duration of the membership of the Commission shall be as follows:
  - a. all Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention shall be permanent members of the Commission (21);
  - b. representatives from each of the three categories (local authorities, socio-economic actors and non-governmental organizations), shall be selected for a duration of two years by the meeting of the Contracting Parties (15).