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MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN

13 November 2020
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22nd Meeting of the MCSD Steering Committee

Videoconference, 15-16 December 2020

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

Provisional Annotated Agenda

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UNEP/MAP
Athens, 2020

Provisional Annotated Agenda

Introduction

1. In accordance with Rule 18 of the Rules of Procedure of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD) and in consultation with Ms. Ivana Stovanovic (Montenegro), President of the MCSD, the 22nd Meeting of the MCSD Steering Committee will be held on 15-17 December 2020 through teleconference. Modalities for connection through electronic means will be communicated to the participants in due time.
2. The purpose of this meeting is twofold: (1) to review progress on the work done since the 21st Meeting of the MCSD Steering Committee (videoconference, 13-14 May 2020); and (2) to discuss specific issues related to the MCSD mandate and to decisions adopted at the 21st Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols (COP 21) (Naples, Italy, 2-5 December 2019), including the preparation of the 19th Meeting of the MCSD to be held in June 2021.
3. Documentation is provided in English and French. Simultaneous interpretation will be provided in English and French during the meeting.
4. The following annotations to the Provisional Agenda (Working Document UNEP/MED WG.483/1) were prepared by the Secretariat to assist the Committee in its deliberations.

Agenda item 1: Opening of the Meeting

5. After welcoming remarks by Mr Gaetano Leone, Coordinator of the UNEP/MAP – Barcelona Convention, the meeting will be opened by the President of the MCSD on Tuesday 15 December 2020 at 10:00 local time in Athens, Greece (GMT+2).

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

Working Documents	UNEP/MED WG.483/1 UNEP/MED WG.483/2
Information Documents	UNEP/MED WG.483/Inf.1 UNEP/MED WG.483/Inf.2

6. As per Rule 25 of the Rules of Procedure of the MCSD, the Rules of Procedure for Meetings and Conferences of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and Coastal Region of the Mediterranean (Barcelona Convention) and its Protocols will apply *mutatis mutandis*.
7. The meeting is expected to review and adopt the Provisional Agenda contained in Working Document UNEP/MED WG.483/1 and annotated in the present document.
8. It is expected that the MCSD Steering Committee discusses all the items of the agenda during this two day-meeting. It is envisaged to close the meeting on Wednesday 16 December 2020 at 17:45.
9. The report of the meeting will be finalized and distributed to the Members of the Committee after the meeting for their comments and approval through electronic means.

Agenda item 3: Work of the MCSD and MSSD Implementation: Review of Progress for the Period May – October 2020

Working Document	UNEP/MED WG.483/3
Information Documents	UNEP/MED WG.483/Inf.3 UNEP/MED WG.483/Inf.4 UNEP/MED WG.483/Inf.5 UNEP/MED WG.483/Inf.6

Publications	UNEP/MED WG.483/Inf.7 UNEP/MAP and Plan Bleu (2020). State of the Environment and Development in the Mediterranean. Nairobi UNEP/MAP and Plan Bleu (2020). State of the Environment and Development in the Mediterranean. Summary for Decision Makers. Nairobi UNEP/MAP and Plan Bleu (2020). State of the Environment and Development in the Mediterranean. Key Messages. Nairobi
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10. The Secretariat will introduce Working Document UNEP/MED WG.483/3 that presents the progress in MCSD and MSSD related activities since the 21st Meeting of the MCSD Steering Committee, covering the period May – October 2020.

11. The Members of the MCSD Steering Committee are expected to comment on the progress presented by the Secretariat and to report on their own activities that contributed to the MSSD implementation and follow-up during this period.

Agenda item 4: Specific Issues

Working Documents	UNEP/MED WG.483/4 UNEP/MED WG.483/5
Information Documents	UNEP/MED WG.483/Inf.3 UNEP/MED WG.483/Inf.4 UNEP/MED WG.483/Inf.5 UNEP/MED WG.483/Inf.6 UNEP/MED WG.483/Inf.7 UNEP/MED WG.483/Inf.8
Publications	UNEP/MAP and Plan Bleu (2020). State of the Environment and Development in the Mediterranean. Nairobi UNEP/MAP and Plan Bleu (2020). State of the Environment and Development in the Mediterranean. Summary for Decision Makers. Nairobi UNEP/MAP and Plan Bleu (2020). State of the Environment and Development in the Mediterranean. Key Messages. Nairobi

12. The Secretariat will introduce Working Document UNEP/MED WG.483/4 “Report on Specific Issues” for review and discussion by the Committee.

13. The Committee is expected to provide comments and guidance on the following specific issues:

A. *Mid-Term Evaluations of the MSSD and of the SCP Regional Action Plan*

14. As per Decision IG.24/3 adopted at COP 21, and under the guidance of the MCSD Steering Committee, the Secretariat (Coordinating Unit and SCP/RAC) is supported by consultant services to carry out the participatory and indicator-based mid-term evaluations of the MSSD and of the Regional Action Plan on Sustainable Consumption and Production in the Mediterranean (SCP Action Plan), in parallel with the preparation of the UNEP/MAP Medium-Term Strategy (MTS) 2022-2027.

15. Based on the outputs of the MSSD Mid-Term Evaluation – State of Play and Gap Analysis (Information Document UNEP/MED WG.483/Inf.4) and on preliminary results of the SCP Action Plan mid-term evaluation (desktop analysis), the consultants drafted a Note for the Stakeholder Consultation (Information Document UNEP/MED WG.483/Inf.5) to support the consultation of various decision-makers and stakeholders through bilateral interviews, focus groups (webinars) and an online questionnaire. Preliminary key findings of the MSSD mid-term evaluation is included in

Annexes I of Working Document UNEP/MED WG.483/4 for consideration, comments from and possible adjustments by the MCSD Steering Committee.

16. The Committee is invited to provide comments on the MSSD and SCP Action Plan mid-term evaluation process, activities and preliminary results, as introduced in Working Document UNEP/MED WG.483/4.

B. The Mediterranean Green Business Award

17. The Secretariat (SCP/RAC) will introduce recent developments and perspectives related to the preparation of the Mediterranean Green Business Award, which corresponds to a MSSD Flagship Initiative and which has been requested by Decision IG.24/3 adopted at COP 21.

18. The MCSD Steering Committee is expected to consider specific issues related to the Award, as introduced in Working Document UNEP/MED WG.483/4, for advice on the way forward, including legal basis, selection criteria, jury, visual identity, stakeholders' engagement and outreach campaign.

C. Assessment Studies

(1) First Mediterranean Assessment Report (MAR1) of Mediterranean Experts on Climate and Environmental Changes (MedECC)

(2) Report on the State of the Environment and Development in the Mediterranean (SoED)

(3) MED 2050 Foresight Study

First Mediterranean Assessment Report (MAR1) of Mediterranean Experts on Climate and Environmental Changes (MedECC)

19. Following the wide policymaker and stakeholder consultation, including the MedECC Plenary consultation (videoconference, 22 September 2020), the revised SPM of the MedECC draft MAR1 is expected to be submitted for consideration and possible endorsement by the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) Ministerial Meeting on Climate and Environmental Action (Egypt, 2021) and by COP 22 (Turkey, December 2021). In 2021, the SPM will also be submitted for consideration by the 19th Meeting of the MCSD.

20. As invited speaker, Mr Wolfgang Cramer, one of the two MedECC Coordinators, will present the recent development and perspectives of the MedECC work. Questions and answers, and a discussion will follow to collect general feedback and detailed comments from the MCSD Steering Committee.

21. The MCSD Steering Committee is expected to share ideas for a broad dissemination of MedECC MAR1 and its SPM, and to discuss the actions envisioned by MedECC beyond the MAR1 communication campaign, as introduced in Working Document UNEP/MED WG.483/4.

Report on the State of the Environment and Development in the Mediterranean Report (SoED)

22. Following the publication of the SoED in October 2020, including its Summary for Decision-Makers (SDM) and Key Messages, the MCSD Steering Committee is invited to discuss the implementation of the UNEP/MAP system-wide communication plan on SoED to ensure a broad dissemination of the report's findings and to position the SoED 2019 as a flagship knowledge product of the UNEP/MAP – Barcelona Convention system.

23. The Committee is also expected to share potential opportunities in further promoting the SoED at regional, national and local levels, in particular in their countries and/or organizations.

MED 2050 Foresight Study

24. As per Decision IG.24/4 adopted at COP 21, the Secretariat (Plan Bleu) is implementing the Phase II of the MED 2050 foresight study on the environment and development in the Mediterranean.

25. The MCSD Steering Committee is expected to review specific issues introduced in Working Document UNEP/MED WG.483/4 in order to advice the Secretariat (Plan Bleu) on the way forward and to position its role in this participatory foresight exercise.

D. Introduction by UNEP Science Division of the World Environment Situation Room (WESR), Indicator Reporting Information System for Sustainable Development Goals (IRIS for SDGs) and Measuring Progress II

26. Following-up on a recommendation from the 21st Meeting of the MCSD Steering Committee, the Secretariat invited representatives of the UNEP Science Division to introduce an interactive live demonstration of the UNEP Environment Live portal (<https://environmentlive.unep.org>), including the World Environment Situation Room (WESR), the Indicator Reporting Information System for Sustainable Development Goals (IRIS for SDGs) and the Measuring Progress II assessment report.

27. A discussion (questions and answers) will follow the live demonstration to collect feedback and comments from the MCSD Steering Committee in view of further collaboration in the future.

E. Mediterranean Sustainability Dashboard and Integration of Sustainable Consumption and Production Indicators

28. As per Decision IG.24/3, the Secretariat (Plan Bleu) is preparing an updated populated version of the Mediterranean Sustainability Dashboard. The Secretariat (Plan Bleu and SCP/RAC) is also working on the integration of SCP indicators in the dashboard. Indicator factsheets will be prepared in view of the 19th Meeting of the MCSD.

29. Adjustments of the dashboard are under consideration for including indicators to monitor the impacts of the COVID-19 crisis in the Mediterranean region and countries, especially on the relationship between the state of the environment and health, as well as legal indicators on environmental regulations to better cover MSSD Objective 6 “Governance” and SDG 17 “Partnership”.

30. The MCSD Steering Committee is expected to review and comment the proposed roadmap related to these activities (perspectives and next steps), as included in Working Document UNEP/MED WG.483/4.

F. Structures and Processes for Implementing the 2030 Agenda and SDGs in the Mediterranean Countries

31. As a follow-up of experience sharing among Contracting Parties on national structures and processes for implementing and monitoring the 2030 Agenda/SDGs and the MSSD, the Secretariat drafted a synthesis paper (Working Document UNEP/MED WG.483/5) fed by the results of an online consultation with the MCSD Members representing Contracting Parties.

32. Following a peer learning approach, the draft paper identifies commonalities among Mediterranean countries and national specificities, as well as conclusions for consideration and comments by the MCSD Steering Committee in view of finalizing this document towards its possible submission to the 19th Meeting of the MCSD.

G. The UNEP/MAP Strategic Response to COVID-19 crisis in the Mediterranean

33. In Spring 2020, the Secretariat has prepared and disseminated the “The Mediterranean Action Plan’s strategic response to COVID-19: a blueprint for action” (UNEP/MED WG.483/Inf.7), which is aligned with the building blocks of the UNEP COVID-19 strategic response.

34. Working Document UNEP/MED WG.483/4 introduces a summary of the strategic directions of the UNEP/MAP response to the COVID-19 crisis in the Mediterranean, for consideration and comments by the MCSD Steering Committee in view of engaging a reflexion within the MCSD, in particular in the context of the preparation of the 19th Meeting of the MCSD.

35. The Members of the Committee are also invited to share their own initiatives and activities addressing the impacts of COVID-19 in their countries or area of expertise.

H. MCSD Membership

36. The MCSD Steering Committee is expected to review and comment the tentative MCSD composition for 2022-2023, as included in Working Document WG.483/4, which reflects the expressions of interest received from several stakeholders.

37. The Committee is also invited to suggest or mobilize any relevant potential candidate, in particular for the group of Parliamentarians.

I. Preparation of the 19th Meeting of the MCSD

38. The Members of the MCSD Steering Committee are expected to discuss topics proposed by the Secretariat in Working Document UNEP/MED WG.483/4 for facilitating their discussion on the preparation of the 19th Meeting of the MCSD and the definition of possible agenda items, taking into account the mandate of the MCSD (Decision IG.22/17 adopted at COP 19 in 2016 in Athens, Greece).

Agenda item 5: Any Other Matters

Working Documents	UNEP/MED WG.483/1 UNEP/MED WG.483/2
Information Document	UNEP/MED WG.483/Inf.8

39. The MCSD Steering Committee is invited to consider other issues that may be raised by its Members.

Agenda item 6: Closure of the Meeting

Working Documents	UNEP/MED WG.483/1 UNEP/MED WG.483/2
Information Document	UNEP/MED WG.483/Inf.8

40. The report of the meeting will be circulated to the MCSD Steering Committee at a later stage for approval.

41. The meeting is expected to be closed by Ms. Ivana Stojanovic, President of the MCSD, at approximately 17:45 on Wednesday 16 December 2020.

Timetable

(The timetable should be read in local time in Athens, Greece: GMT+2)

Tuesday, 15 December 2020			
Time	Agenda item		Document
10:00 – 10:30	1. Opening of the Meeting 2. Adoption of the Provisional Agenda and Organization of Work	President of the MCSD Steering Committee Secretariat	UNEP/MED WG.483/1 UNEP/MED WG.483/2 UNEP/MED WG.483/Inf.1 UNEP/MED WG.483/Inf.2
10:30 – 11:30	3. Work of the MCSD and MSSD Implementation: Review of Progress for the Period May – October 2020	Secretariat	UNEP/MED WG.483/3 UNEP/MED WG.483/Inf.3 UNEP/MED WG.483/Inf.4 UNEP/MED WG.483/Inf.5 UNEP/MED WG.483/Inf.6 UNEP/MED WG.483/Inf.7
11:30 – 12:00	4. Specific Issues B. The Mediterranean Green Entrepreneurship Award	Secretariat (SCP/RAC)	UNEP/MED WG.483/3 UNEP/MED WG.483/4
<i>12:00 – 12:30</i>	<i>Break</i>		
12:30 – 13:30	4. Specific Issues D. Introduction of the World Environment Situation Room (WESR) by UNEP Science Division	Secretariat UNEP Science Division	UNEP/MED WG.483/4
13:30 – 14:30	4. Specific Issues (cont'd) E. Mediterranean Sustainability Dashboard and Integration of Sustainable Consumption and Production Indicators	Secretariat (Plan Bleu and SCP/RAC)	UNEP/MED WG.483/3 UNEP/MED WG.483/4
<i>14:30 – 16:00</i>	<i>Lunch break</i>		
16:00 – 17:00	4. Specific Issues (cont'd) C. Assessment Studies: (1) MedECC First Mediterranean Assessment Report (MAR1) and its Summary for Policymakers (SPM)	Secretariat Mr Wolfgang Cramer (MedECC)	UNEP/MED WG.483/3 UNEP/MED WG.483/4 UNEP/MED WG.483/Inf.6
17:00 – 18:00	4. Specific Issues (cont'd) C. Assessment Studies: (2) Report on the State of the Environment and Development in the Mediterranean (SoED); (3) MED 2050 Foresight Study	Secretariat (Plan Bleu)	UNEP/MED WG.483/3 UNEP/MED WG.483/4
Wednesday, 16 December 2020			
Time	Agenda item		Document
10:00 – 10:45	4. Specific Issues (cont'd) G. The UNEP/MAP Strategic Response to COVID-19 crisis in the Mediterranean	Secretariat	UNEP/MED WG.483/4 UNEP/MED WG.483/Inf.7

10:45 – 11:15	4. Specific Issues (cont'd) H. MCSD Membership	Secretariat	UNEP/MED WG.483/4
11:15 – 12:00	4. Specific Issues (cont'd) F. Structures and Processes for Implementing the 2030 Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the Mediterranean Countries	Secretariat	UNEP/MED WG.483/4 UNEP/MED WG.483/5
12:00 – 12:30	<i>Break</i>		
12:30 – 14:30	4. Specific Issues (cont'd) A. Mid-Term Evaluation of the MSSD and of the SCP Action Plan	Secretariat	UNEP/MED WG.483/3 UNEP/MED WG.483/4 UNEP/MED WG.483/Inf.3 UNEP/MED WG.483/Inf.4 UNEP/MED WG.483/Inf.5
14:30 – 16:00	<i>Lunch break</i>		
16:00 – 17:00	4. Specific Issues (cont'd) I. Preparation of the 19 th Meeting of the MCSD	Secretariat	UNEP/MED WG.483/4
17:00 – 18:00	5. Any Other Matters 6. Closure of the Meeting	Secretariat President of the MCSD	UNEP/MED WG.483/1 UNEP/MED WG.483/2 UNEP/MED WG.483/Inf.8
