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**MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN**

Third Meeting of the Steering Committee of the  
Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD)

Tunis 20-21 January 2000

**Report of the Secretariat for the third meeting of the Steering Committee of  
the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD)**

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## **Introduction:**

At the close of their fifth meeting which was held in Rome from 1-3 July 1999, the members of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development decided to convene a meeting of the Steering Committee in order to prepare for the sixth meeting of the MCSD, and in this respect to examine in particular questions related to:

- drawing up the strategic review;
- the follow-up of current activities;
- the follow-up of the meeting of the Contracting Parties;
- the agenda for the 6<sup>th</sup> meeting of the MCSD.

Following the 5<sup>th</sup> meeting of the MCSD it was clear that the main subject at the next meeting would be the strategic review for the year 2000, and that this year the Secretariat would have to focus most of its efforts on preparing it. Consequently, discussions on the preparatory phase of this strategic review would provide the main agenda item for the third meeting of the Steering Committee, particularly because by examining this point on the agenda we would be fulfilling an essential element in the MCSD's remit as adopted by the Contracting Parties in 1995.

This should not, however, mask the importance of the other agenda items. In fact:

- following the renewal of the 15 members of the MCSD representing the NGOs, the local authorities and socio-economic players by the Contracting Parties, and given the need to avoid any hiatus in the current work programme, it was decided that as far as possible both the former members and the new ones should be involved in the work programme during the inter-session period;
- as for new themes, or rather new issues and derived themes for the work programmes for the coming 2 or 3 bienniums, it was agreed that an objective assessment of their feasibility should be carried out, demonstrating the added value which could be expected from their being dealt with by the MCSD;
- as for the current thematic groups, activities and respective meetings would be looked at as would co-operation with the United Nations' CSD, with which it is planned to jointly organise the next MCSD meeting which will in fact focus on the importance of regional co-operation for sustainable development in the Mediterranean region, and ways of achieving it.

In order to make the best possible use of the time allotted to the meeting (a day and a half) no report will be adopted at the close of the meeting as now tends to happen at meetings of the Bureau of the Contracting Parties, and as also happened at the second meeting of the MCSD's steering committee. Nevertheless, a set of recommendations and decisions will be reviewed and adopted at the close of the meeting, whilst the meeting report will be sent out to the members of the Steering Committee one week later to be examined and finalised.

## **I. STRATEGIC REVIEW FOR THE YEAR 2000:**

In accordance with the MCSD's remit, it was therefore decided to carry out a strategic review and an assessment of implementation by the Contracting Parties of the Agenda MED 21 programme, decisions taken by the meetings of the Contracting Parties and their work towards sustainable development in the Mediterranean region, and that relevant recommendations should be proposed.

In order to carry out this review, however, it is important to remember all the tasks of the MCSD which include drawing up the review in question (extracts from the remit of the MCSD in Annex I); what emerges in particular is that, wherever possible, necessary and useful, the context of the Barcelona Convention, the Agenda MED 21 programme and MAP Phase II should be used to assess the integration of the environment and development and progress achieved in applying the relevant conventions on the environment, as well as the scope and effectiveness of regional co-operation.

### **Context:**

At the 5<sup>th</sup> meeting of the MCSD, preparation of this review was the subject of a major discussion from which it emerged among other things that:

- one of the fundamental aims of this review is to foster commitment amongst all partners at local, national and regional level, which would help spur on the participation process;
- preparation of this review marks a high point in MAP's work, which provides all partners with the possibility of reconfirming their commitment to a shared vision and a brighter future for the Mediterranean. This squares entirely with certain points of criticism raised at the last meeting of the Contracting Parties which pointed out the need for a general political debate on the future of the Mediterranean and a reflection on priorities and a medium and long term programme corresponding to a vision of MAP;
- the preparation of this review will require additional funding, and it would be advisable to address a recommendation on financing to potential donors in order to allow a complete and exhaustive report to be drawn up (initial informal contacts led the Secretariat to call for the support of certain Contracting Parties; to date this appeal has been answered by the Principality of Monaco which has decided to grant us 200,000FFr. Other pledges are expected, particularly as the request for support is to be repeated and extended to others immediately following the meeting of the Steering Committee).

### **Methodology:**

In order to assist the members of the MCSD and the Secretariat in drawing up the strategic review, the 5<sup>th</sup> meeting of the MCSD decided on the following methodology:

“1. The Working Group composed of Tunisia and Greece for the Contracting Parties, as well as the City of Rome, the EOAEN and the MIO-ECSDE for the three categories shall be responsible for:

- a) preparing a model of the report to be provided by members and observers of the MCSD,
- b) collecting and summarising the reports provided;
- c) circulating a preliminary synoptic report to members and observers of the MCSD two months before its sixth meeting.

2. Preparation by the members and observers of the MCSD of a report on the methods for implementing the principles of the Agenda Med 21 programme in their respective fields.

3. In view of the timetable and methodology selected, the Secretariat shall propose a draft budget to the Contracting Parties in Malta within the framework of the 2000-2001 programme budget.

The Contracting Parties are invited insofar as they are able to contribute to the financing of this exercise on a voluntary basis.”

At their last meeting, the Contracting Parties granted 20,000 US\$(from the European Union's voluntary contribution) for the preparation of the strategic review, in the expectation

that most of the necessary funding would come from outside sources additional to those of MAP (as is already the case with Monaco).

### **Preparatory work:**

In order to assist the working group on the strategic review with the preparation of an objective framework and appropriate terms of reference, the Secretariat has drawn up:

- a focus paper for preparing the strategic review, highlighting its interest, what is at stake, and what is expected;
- an appropriate methodological approach, identifying the experts' groups and meetings which will be needed;
- a draft table of content of the report;
- guidelines and questionnaires on environmental performance in response to the requirements of the review;
- terms of reference for carrying out the "strategic review for the year 2000" both for the study as a whole and for the services to be provided by the various experts.

Insofar as the Secretariat had to await finalisation of the report from the 11<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Contracting Parties before beginning the activities stemming from the recommendations adopted at the meeting, the preparatory work was done in a very short time between 5 and 20 December 1999, at least as far as concerns the first version which was sent out to the five members of the working group on 23 December 1999.

The latest version which takes account of the comments made by certain members of the working group is to be found in Annex II to this report.

**The members of the Steering Committee are invited to review the different parts of the draft for preparing the strategic review for the year 2000, with the aim of having a final draft by the end of the meeting, which will mean that preparatory work can be got underway as soon as possible in early February 2000.** In this respect it should be noted that if a report in French and English is to go to the 6<sup>th</sup> meeting of the MCSD in November 2000, the many national, regional and specific contributions must be submitted to the Secretariat by the end of April 2000. The Secretariat will then analyse and summarise them in a major report to go to the Contracting Parties, members of the MCSD and the partners concerned for comment in June/July, before the final report can be prepared for mid October 2000.

Apart from the funding available for preparing the review, it is obvious that we are faced with an ambitious and difficult albeit necessary task. It will demand a high degree of objectivity, realism and vigilance if the strategic tool is to live up to expectations.

## **II. INTEGRATION OF THE NEW MEMBERS OF THE MCSD:**

In a bid to ensure both rotation and continuity in the composition of the Commission, the Contracting Parties have selected the new members representing the local authorities, the socio-economic actors (the 5<sup>th</sup> representative will shortly be appointed by the Bureau of the Contracting Parties), and the NGOs, whilst retaining one member from each category.

The new members have been informed of their appointment to the MCSD and various MCSD reports have been sent out to them, asking them to inform the Secretariat of their choice of the current thematic working groups so that they can be brought in as soon as possible. The first selections are shown in the table in Annex III on the composition of the working groups. It should be recalled at this stage that this applies to the 15 members not representing the Contracting Parties, given that their representatives will continue as before, thus providing the working group with the necessary continuity.

In accordance with the recommendations from the Malta meeting (paragraph 149 of the report), **the Steering Committee is invited to include the new members of the MCSD in the working groups and other activities, and to give its views on continuing the participation of outgoing members during the inter-session period.**

Moreover, the 3 working groups whose activities are still on-going, and which are to submit their recommendations and proposals for action to the next meeting of the Contracting Parties in 2001, should not run into any difficulties in continuing their activities insofar as the task managers remain unchanged and no less than three quarters of the members of the groups will stay on, the others being replaced by new members so requesting.

However, it is the new members who will be invited to represent the three categories of players at the next meeting of the MCSD in November 2000, whilst the outgoing members should at least be regularly kept abreast of the MCSD's activities and achievements.

Moreover, both the new and the outgoing members as appropriate will be involved with or consulted on the preparation of the strategic review for the year 2000.

### **III. NEW THEMES AND ISSUES:**

Following discussions on the choice of new themes at the last meetings of the MCSD and the Steering Committee, it was agreed that the MCSD's work programmes should not be overloaded. Besides the strategic review it still comprises three themes on which work is on-going. It was also pointed out that the new themes should undergo a preparatory stage which would involve a feasibility study as well as the necessary time to "mature".

Moreover, at a meeting of an ad hoc working group on future MCSD work held during the last meeting of the Contracting Parties, this question was discussed at great length, largely because of a problem of terminology- the theme approach was considered to be restrictive, whilst the MCSD should rather look at Mediterranean "issues", which could then in turn be analysed from the point of view of one or more themes.

This distinction would apply to the new subjects to be tackled in the work programme for the coming 2 to 3 bienniums in the MCSD. In fact, although from the list of possible subjects of interest to the MCSD energy and transport would better correspond to a thematic approach, all of the other subjects are major issues for the future of the Mediterranean; possible subjects (issues and themes) of interest to the MCSD, from which the ones which will form the basis of the work programme for the 4 to 6 years to come are to be chosen, cover:

- Local management and sustainable development (with emphasis on matters specifically related to the wetlands, islands, mountainous or desert regions);
- Sustainable management of marine natural resources (including fisheries);
- Energy and transport and sustainable development;
- Employment and training;

- Agriculture and the rural environment (including land use, erosion and desertification);
- Modes of consumption and waste management;
- Health and the environment;
- Combating poverty;
- Natural disasters;
- International co-operation towards sustainable development.

Obviously, this is neither an exhaustive nor a closed list, given that new themes/issues could become more topical in the short term in the light of developments in the region, or as a result of the drawing up of the strategic review.

For each subject of interest for the MCSD's future programme, the Secretariat should strive to identify individuals (legal or natural, experts) from amongst the members of the MCSD as well as MAP's other partners, apart from the MAP Centres concerned, to carry out the necessary preliminary work to any possible selection of a new subject. Given the limited means available to MAP for carrying out the feasibility studies in question, the good will of the various partners will be particularly called upon, several offers of assistance having already been made at the 5<sup>th</sup> meeting of the MCSD.

Whether they be undertaken by the components of MAP, the members of the MCSD or any other partner, these feasibility studies should provide a clear and adequate response to the criteria of importance, assessment, feasibility and methodology, taking particular account of the following questions:

- importance: what makes this a priority subject of importance to the MCSD and the Mediterranean? How do the countries of MAP and its partners perceive it?
- assessment: what are the major stakes for the region and the countries in the short, medium and long term? How does this subject contribute to national and regional sustainable development in the Mediterranean? What added value can be expected as a result of the MCSD dealing with this subject?
- feasibility: what information/knowledge is available in terms of quality, quantity, accessibility and use, and what work is already underway within MAP as well as in other national, regional or international bodies? What technical and financial means would be needed to include this subject in the MCSD's programme, with the identification of some realistic and accessible potential sources?
- methodology: given the level of knowledge and the technical and financial means either available or accessible, what would be the best adapted working method, a small group of experts or a classical working group? Over what period would the work in question be done, from 1 to 4 years, including the "maturing" period if needs be?

**The members of the Steering Committee are invited to review and comment on the method proposed above**, to enable the Secretariat to identify the partners/experts to carry out the feasibility studies as soon as possible; it would be a good idea if several proposals having undergone feasibility studies could be available, for examination by the 6<sup>th</sup> meeting of the MCSD; the latter could then pre-select the subjects (issues and themes) to be included in the Commission's work programme for the 2002-2003 and 2004-2005 bienniums at least.

This would mean that the task managers and particularly the Support Centres and other partners involved could allow the subject to "mature", by gathering additional information, increasing their knowledge of the subject in question, and searching for additional funding. The aim would be for the final selection to be made at the 7<sup>th</sup> meeting of the MCSD, with activities related to the newly selected themes and issues effectively kicking off in 2002.

#### **IV. CO-OPERATION WITH THE UNITED NATIONS' CSD:**

In accordance with its terms of reference, the MCSD is continuing to build up its co-operation with the UN-CSD, and in the year 2000 this will take the form of:

- a parallel meeting (side event) on the MCSD at the next UN-CSD meeting in April 2000;
- the convening of a joint meeting on sustainable development in the Mediterranean.

The first meeting, which is planned to last a few hours, could well prove highly useful for our information and communication strategy as well as for our visibility; it will also be a good opportunity to demonstrate the interest and importance of the regional level, and particularly of the Mediterranean eco-region, as a useful and necessary bridge and relay between the global and the national levels. The Steering Committee is invited to consider this point and if possible to provide the Secretariat with the remit to proceed with the practical steps and procedures vis a vis UNEP and the UN-CSD for the convening of this meeting;

As for the second meeting, it would be the culminating point of dynamic co-operation between the respective Secretariats of these two commissions; the idea of a joint meeting in the form of either a workshop or a regional advisory meeting on sustainable development in the Mediterranean region has been in gestation since the 4<sup>th</sup> meeting of the MCSD in October 1998. However, given the working programme decided for the MCSD at the close of the Rome meeting, particularly concerning the drawing up of the strategic review by November 2000, it was deemed preferable for this joint meeting on sustainable development in the Mediterranean to be held at the same time as the next meeting of the MCSD. Several arguments support this approach; in fact,

- the two meetings (the joint workshop or regional advisory meeting and the 6<sup>th</sup> meeting of the MCSD) would be dealing with sustainable development in the Mediterranean;
- there was a major risk of overlapping and duplication had the two meetings been held a few months apart;
- several participants, no less than half in fact, would be at both meetings;
- the drawing up of the strategic review, the main item for the forthcoming MCSD meeting which is to review and assess the decisions taken and work done towards sustainable development by the many players at different levels should provide answers to most of the questions likely to be raised by the regional advisory meeting as originally conceived by the UN-CSD.

Consequently, and for obvious reasons of synergy, efficiency and visibility, the proposal is for the 6<sup>th</sup> meeting of the MCSD to be jointly organised by the MCSD and the UN-CSD. The latter fully backs the proposal, and will be actively involved in both organising and financing the meeting. By pooling the budgets recently approved by the Contracting Parties for the 6<sup>th</sup> meeting of the MCSD and the joint workshop, which were initially planned as separate (a total figure of 55,000 US\$) with those proposed by the UN-CSD (around 50,000 US\$) and what can realistically be expected as a contribution from the host country and from other



countries and partners, a multiplier effect is generated, which is very useful both for the organisers and for all partners in the region. Given the means potentially available for organising this meeting in November 2000 in Tunis, and its expected impact on the MCSD and MAP as a whole, and by analogy the Mediterranean region, a high ministerial turn-out is to be desired, as well as participation by members and experts representing both the environment and development (National Commission for Sustainable Development, national or local Agenda 21, Planning, Land Planning, etc...).

The practical organisational details for this meeting and particularly the respective roles of the MCSD and the UN-CSD will in principle be discussed with the CSD management when the Secretariat takes part in the forthcoming ad hoc inter-session meeting of the CSD in late February 2000.

#### **V. AGENDA OF INTER-SESSION ACTIVITIES:**

Of the 8 themes selected at the first meeting of the MCSD and their respective working groups, 5 have already produced recommendations and proposals for action adopted by the Contracting Parties, three of them at the Malta meeting (27-30 October 1999). These recommendations and proposals for action will be circulated specially as an off-print. The remaining three working parties, which are due to submit their conclusions and proposed recommendations to the 12<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Contracting Parties in 2001 are dealing with industry and sustainable development, free trade and the environment, and finally the management of urban development.

As far as "industry" is concerned, at present the group is working to draw up some guidelines and inventories which will be backed up by a set of practical tools needed to update the industrial sector, SMEs in particular, within a sustainable development context. The work is being done in close co-operation with UNEP and UNIDO. The group's results will be discussed during a meeting prior to the 6<sup>th</sup> MCSD, whilst the year 2001 will be dedicated to testing and optimising the conclusions and proposals for action.

As for "free trade", regional studies on agriculture, industry and consumption patterns were due to begin in February (the programme has built up a slight delay because the main consultant was unable to continue his work, having been appointed to a ministerial post in his country); moreover, it is planned to hold a restricted focus (post Seattle) and organisational meeting on further activities, particularly a regional workshop in mid-2000, which should give rise to draft recommendations and proposals for work. These proposals would then be tried out, optimised and stream-lined before going first to the MCSD, then to the Contracting Parties.

Finally, the "urban" group which is working on a project for possible EC/MEDA/SMAP funding, will be organising an experts' meeting in March 2000 to prepare the terms of reference for the national reports and the questionnaires on urban management at local level, it being understood that the working party will initially have familiarised itself with the work being done in this field by both Mediterranean and international institutions, in order to produce substantial added value suited to the Mediterranean context and its concerns. The various case studies which should provide the elements needed for the drafting of recommendations and proposals for action should be completed by late 2000 before they, or rather a summary and the lessons to be learned from them, are discussed at a regional workshop in March-April 2001.

#### **VI. FORTHCOMING MEETING OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE:**

Given the importance of the 6<sup>th</sup> meeting of the MCSD, and in particular the drawing up of the strategic review, preparatory work on the new themes/issues and the organisation of the joint

meeting with the UN-CSD, it may be useful to convene the Steering Committee once more in order to follow-up, assess and channel on-going activities. This meeting could be held in around 5 months time, in late June/ early July 2000 (in Corfu or Rome, for example).

## **VII. SIXTH MEETING OF THE MCSD AND ITS DRAFT AGENDA:**

By pooling the two meetings initially planned for of the 6<sup>th</sup> meeting of the MCSD and the joint meeting with the UN-CSD, the 6<sup>th</sup> meeting of the MCSD would run over a longer period of around four days, the first half of which (possibly more) would deal with the strategic assessment. It would thus more or equate to the regional consultative meeting initially planned with the UN-CSD, the rest of the time being used for the follow-up of the activities of the on-going thematic working groups, and assessment of new subjects for future MCSD bienniums.

The 6<sup>th</sup> meeting of the MCSD could also be an opportunity to introduce certain changes in a bid for objectiveness and efficiency, in particular:

- adopting a set of conclusions and decisions at the end of MCSD meetings rather than an exhaustive report;
- convening working parties where useful and necessary during meetings of the MCSD, as often happens with regional workshops;
- using the name of the “accredited” representative for members and partners rather than the name of the country or institution.

The 6<sup>th</sup> meeting of the MCSD, to be jointly organised with the UN-CSD, is to be held in Tunis in November 2000 (the period between 21 and 24 November 2000 would be suitable).

Besides points of protocol and organisation, the agenda will mainly comprise the presentation of the strategic assessment, the new subjects deemed of interest for forthcoming bienniums and a review of the activities of the thematic groups.

A pre-draft agenda is to be found in Annex IV.

## ANNEX I

### **MEDITERRANEAN COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT TERMS OF REFERENCE**

-Extracts-

#### **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.

## **ANNEX II**

### **STRATEGIC REVIEW FOR THE YEAR 2000**

- I. Framework Paper**
- II. Methodological Approach**
- III. Draft table of contents of the report**
- IV. Questionnaire on Environmental Performance**
- V. Terms of Reference for carrying out the “Strategic Review for the Year 2000”.**

## I. FRAMEWORK PAPER

### Aim:

At their 11th ordinary meeting (Malta, 27-30 October 1999) the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the protection of the Mediterranean Sea and its protocols decided to carry out a strategic review in order to assess the implementation and effectiveness of measures adopted by the Mediterranean community and its partners towards sustainable development, considering in particular the recommendations and decisions taken by the contracting parties and any corresponding activities, in line with the remit of the MCSD.

The review will focus more specifically on steps taken by the ministries, and the decision taking process, in order to provide MAP and the MCSD with the political impetus required, to encourage synergy between partners and to strengthen strategic activities aimed at the sustainable development of the region, i.e. "development which respects the environment, is technically appropriate, economically viable and socially acceptable, which allows the needs of present day generations to be met without undermining the possibility of future generations to satisfy theirs."

This review is needed 5 years after the setting up of the MCSD, given the obvious difficulties which exist with the implementation of policies and projects on sustainable development, particularly the main elements of the Agenda 21 programme and MED 21.

The obstacles are well-known:

- improper use of natural resources.
- non-sustainable patterns of consumption and production.
- difficulty in stamping out short term interests and acquired rights.
- difficulties in solving questions of finance and the transfer of ecologically sound technologies.
- debt burden.
- limited political will.

### Historical overview:

Population growth, urbanisation, "littoralisation", and tourist development are today contributing heavily to the rapid "anthropisation" of the Mediterranean landscape and the deterioration process in spite of increased and relatively long-established awareness marked by many initiatives involving States in the region as well as the international community.

1972: Setting up of UNEP, following the United Nations' Conference on the human environment in Stockholm.

1974: Setting up of UNEP's regional seas programme.

An international meeting in Monaco on the study of marine pollution establishes that the pollution of coastal waters is the main problem in the Mediterranean.

1975: Approval of MAP and MED POL in Barcelona by the Mediterranean States and the European Community, under the aegis of UNEP.

1976: Setting up in Barcelona of the Convention for the protection of the Mediterranean against pollution, MAP's legal instrument.

Adoption of 2 protocols:

- for the prevention of pollution by dumping.
- concerning the combating of pollution by oil and other harmful substances in cases of emergency.

REMPEC set up in Malta.

1977: Blue Plan/RAC set up in Sophia Antipolis and PAP/RAC in Split.

1980: Adoption in Athens of the Protocol for the protection of the sea against pollution from land-based sources.

1981: Launch of MEDPOL phase II.

1982: Protocol on Specially Protected Areas adopted in Geneva.

1985: SPA/RAC set up in Tunis.

Declaration from the Genova conference establishing 10 priority objectives in the MAP framework.

1987: MAP goes for the coastal areas management programme (CAMP).

1988: Publication of the Brundtland report- "Our Common Future"- which explains the concept of sustainable development: " Meeting the needs of the present without undermining the possibility of satisfying those of future generations".

Launch of the Mediterranean Environment Programme (MEP) by the World Bank and the EIB.

1989: Charter of 100 historic sites adopted in Marseilles.

1990: METAP launched to implement the MEP.

Adoption of the Nicosia Charter laying down long term strategies (horizon 2025) to encourage integrated coastal management in particular.

1992: Cairo Declaration on Euro-Mediterranean co-operation on the environment: "the common objective is to protect and restore the Mediterranean in order to allow sustainable development for all riparian states".

The UNCED in Rio adopts the concept of sustainable development and Agenda 21: a global partnership for sustainable development.

As far as the seas and coastal areas are concerned, Agenda 21 feels that states should:

- beef up UNEP's regional seas programme.
- encourage information exchange on matters concerning the sea and the coasts.
- co-operate in order to develop procedures allowing the comparison of reliable analysis data.

UNCED adopts the 2 conventions on biodiversity and climate change, as well as the principle of having a convention on desertification.

Setting up of Environment Ministries speeded up in the countries.

1993: The revision process of the "Barcelona system" starts in Antalya

ERS/RAC set up in Palermo

MEDO set up within the Blue Plan.

1994: The ministerial conference on sustainable development in the Mediterranean in Tunis adopts:

- the principle of setting up an MCSD within the MAP framework.
- Agenda MED 21: Agenda 21 in Mediterranean format.

The Offshore protocol on pollution resulting from the exploitation of the continental shelf, the seabed and its subsoil adopted in Madrid.

1995: MAP turns 20.

In Barcelona the contracting parties state their intent to use the convention for the protection of the Mediterranean as a tool for sustainable development.

To this end:

- the Barcelona convention and the dumping protocol were revised: integration of the notion of sustainable development and the concept of the Mediterranean basin.
- a new protocol on specially protected areas and biodiversity was adopted.
- MAP was reshaped: programme extended to the coastal areas, integrated resource management, pollution prevention and control. Priorities were established for the 10 years to come.
- the MCSD set up as an advisory body. CP/RAC set up in Barcelona.

The Euro-Mediterranean conference commits itself to supporting sustainable development, the Barcelona convention and MAP through financial assistance from the MEDA programme.

1996: Land-based sources protocol amended in Siracusa. MED POL phase III (1996-2005) adopted and launched. Protocol on transboundary movements of hazardous waste adopted in Izmir.

MCSD programme of activities launched in Rabat:

#### Sustainable development and the Mediterranean

The main aims of the MCSD are:

- to identify and assess socio-economic and environmental problems in the spirit of Agenda MED 21.
- to track implementation of proposals made to the contracting parties.
- to encourage co-operation and exchange of information on sustainable development in the Mediterranean basin.

Agenda Med 21 provides a framework for reflection in order to identify aims to be reached by the region in the perspective of Agenda 21 in terms of:

- social and economic concerns.
- conserving and managing resources for the purpose of sustainable development.
- increasing the role of the main groups within society.
- increasing the means for implementation.



It takes account of the region's specific context, in particular as concerns tourism, shipping, cultural heritage, energy, fisheries, and aquaculture. It reflects the commitments already made by the States, each within its own borders or all together within the framework of intra-Mediterranean co-operation. (Genova '86, Nicosia '90, Athens'91, Cairo '92, Antalya '93).

The revised MAP II which no longer deals exclusively with the marine environment, but rather shows increasing interest in the coastal areas- a human environment par excellence- is expected to propose strategies for solving the crucial problems of development and protecting the common Mediterranean heritage.

More and more obviously these strategies imply increased interest for all players in civil society.

In the wake of Rio and armed with an amended Barcelona convention, an Agenda MED 21 adapted to the Mediterranean context, an updated MAP, an MCSD broadly open to civil society and bolstered by a tradition of concertation going back a quarter of a century within the UNEP framework, the countries of the Mediterranean region seem perfectly entitled today to assess the progress made in the shaping and implementation of a regional strategy for sustainable development.

A large sector of the population has a deep-seated desire for development. However, resources are traditionally scarce and have been exploited for several thousand years, whilst the food needs of a population set to grow for several decades yet are becoming urgent.

Tourist pressure on a coveted coastline, increasing threats to a fragile ecosystem, the impact of the technologies of the future on traditional cultures....such are the challenges which the Mediterranean countries are asking to overcome.

#### Questions for the review :

The concept of sustainable development picks up well where environmental protection leaves off, by opening it up to society and human activity, and ridding them of any extremist temptations.

However,

Has it been adequately explained in the eco-region of the Mediterranean?

Has it been taken on board by planners, managers, and economic operators?

Has it mobilised all of the movers in civil society?

Have the efforts which it demands been translated into political language and have the relevant strategic recommendations to which it gives rise been reflected in action programmes?

Have the ad hoc Mediterranean structures set up fulfilled their mandate?

Have the regional partners fully played their role?

To what degree have States really committed themselves to implementing the decisions taken towards sustainable development in terms of:

- government support for projects and activities towards sustainability.
- institutional reforms.
- the integration of environmental concerns in development programmes.
- capacity building.

What can we say objectively today in terms of performance and results achieved since 1995 by all players at the various levels:

Euro- Mediterranean level

Mediterranean level (MAP, MCSD, partners)

National level/local level/ at the level of civil society (NGOs).

What analyses can we carry out and using which tools in order to identify loopholes, constraints, trends and possible alternatives to speed up the decision-taking process and good governance in the perspective of sustainable development?

What should we reasonably expect of our regional partners, the contracting parties, MAP and the MCSD, civil society, local authorities and the private sector in terms of commitment and means?

These are some of the questions which we would do well to answer if the next stage is to be broached with greater confidence.

It is a difficult exercise since the decision taking- player States are sovereign. We would invite them to carry out some constructive self-criticism, given that they judge the importance of the suggested diagnosis at its true value, having felt it necessary as far back as 1996 when they explicitly included it in the MCSD's mandate.

## **II. METHODOLOGICAL APPROACH**

The review must at all costs be carried out between 1 February and 31 July 2000 at the latest.

The study will be coordinated by the MAP Secretariat supported by a steering group made up of representatives from Tunisia and Greece for the contracting parties, the City of Rome, the EOAEN and the MIO-ECSDE for the other three categories of representatives to the MCSD.

The expected final product will consist of:

- a critical, exhaustive and retrospective review of action undertaken mainly within the MAP framework since 1990, and more particularly since 1995.
- a general inventory of the loopholes and shortcomings which undermine MAP's efficiency.
- a set of relevant recommendations to remedy these shortcomings, to improve efficiency and to strengthen the strategic aspects of their implementation by MAP, the contracting parties and all the partners involved.

Three independent experts will be called upon to do this. Their work will draw on all available documentation and any relevant information liable to be provided by the national correspondents appointed to such effect.

There is no doubt that sustainability can only be guaranteed in the long term in the Mediterranean region if the contracting parties implement the principles for action adopted in Agenda MED 21 within the framework of national voluntarist policies co-ordinated on a contractual basis by MAP.

This presupposes that the governments of the riparian states should regularly be provided with an overall picture of the region's economic and ecological situation, explaining the interactions between human populations, their activities and the natural environments, demanding prospective thinking and steps to encourage development which can "meet the needs of the present without undermining the possibility of satisfying those of generations to come".

Mobilisation towards this clearly defined common objective has meant that since 1995:

- the Barcelona conventional framework and the structures of MAP have had to be updated.
- States have had to weigh up the dangers of non-sustainability.
- civil society has had to be mobilised.

To what extent have incentives and efforts towards co-ordination made at regional level borne fruit?

To what extent have the major political and socio-economic choices at the national level improved the situation?

To what extent has public opinion, through the NGOs, been involved in decision taking?

### **General Approach**

Definition of sustainable development.

Development which is environment- friendly, technically appropriate, economically viable and socially acceptable, meaning that the needs of present generations can be met without undermining the possibility for future generations to satisfy their own.

Where they exist, indicators of sustainable development assess how situations or trends square with the principles of sustainable development, and may reveal the non-sustainability of a given line of development.

When such indicators are not available, referring to the sustainable development process means sticking to the Rio principles which underpin it:

- A moral principle of intra and inter-generational equity:
  - . To preserve the environment in order to ensure the continuity of human life.
- Political principles:
  - . of national sovereignty on environmental matters: think globally at regional level but act to foster sustainable development at national if not local level.
  - . of participation by the population at all levels: role of players in civil society (women and young people in particular).
  - . of international co-operation on questions of research, development and training: transfer of clean technologies.
  - . of transparency of information.
  - . of differentiating the responsibilities between countries to the North and those to the South.

Methodological integration principles:

To take account of the environment-development interface and report on environment-economy-society interplay.

When all is said and done, the upstream integration on a preventive basis of environmental concerns in the multi-configuration and multi-player processes of planning and development is the best way of ensuring sustainability.

Encouraging sustainable development in the countries of the Mediterranean region will, for one, involve easing the pressure of human activity on the environment, which could not fail to have a positive effect on society as a whole.

The pressure of human activity will be assessed in terms of:

- development trends since 1995 within the main forms of economic activity, i.e. demography, urbanisation, agriculture, industry, energy, transport and tourism.
- and their negative impact on the main areas of the environment: forests, soil, water, biodiversity, air and the coasts.

The legislative, statutory, fiscal and technical responses applied by the decision-takers and the accompanying measures introduced in order to lessen if not remove any negative effects on sustainability will be assessed using indicators to translate the initiatives taken at political level.

In assessing the effects, however, it should be borne in mind that the time scale of the decision takers (short term) does not always correspond to the ecological time scale (the very long term).

Any assessment of situations or changes in terms of sustainable development will often be of a qualitative nature.

It will also have to take account of the ecological, geographical, social, economic and structural characteristics of the different countries, which consequently mean that they face different problems and are starting from levels of experience which cannot always be compared.

There is no doubt that the analysis of the situation prevailing in the countries, the effectiveness of policy decisions on environmental and development-related issues, and the relevance of technical responses applied to situations and changes which do not square with sustainability are largely dependent on the States' institutional capacity.

It will therefore be necessary to study the extent to which the States have developed since 1995:

- the capacity to draw up policies and strategies for sustainable development.
- the capacity to implement these policies and strategies in terms of ministries, specialised governmental bodies and agencies.
- the capacity to involve the population and local areas through local and regional authorities and the NGOs.

Further assessment could be made of efforts towards:

- better distribution of powers between the central, state level, and the local area (deconcentration and more particularly decentralisation).
- the creation of a supervisory body or national or local agencies responsible for the environment reflecting the new awareness and involvement of the public authorities.
- a supreme body for interministerial co-ordination of environmental management issues.
- increasing the financial and human resources made available to the administrations responsible for the environment.
- drawing up national environment protection programmes which specify the general strategic line, and action plans aimed at integrating environmental concerns within a sustainable form of development.
- planning which clearly explains the actions envisaged, the aims to be achieved, and the deadlines.
- the introduction of legislation which meets the need for controls, and reflects the official will to stop the situation deteriorating any further.
- the adoption of international and regional commitments on environmental issues as a way of encouraging the beefing up of national environmental policies.

Any assessment at the present moment of the administrative and institutional workings of the countries requires wide knowledge of the national situation, the existing institutional set-up, who does what, and what efforts have been made since 1995.

This implies that one national expert per country must be effectively involved in the assessment, who will use a questionnaire still to be drawn up in order to establish the profile of the country, and will collect any useful validated information at the relevant level from the institutional partners.

There is also no doubt that, when all is said and done, sustainability must also be shown in the field in terms of:

- economic efficiency whilst retaining the capital in natural resources.
- environmental integrity.
- social equity.

Should it prove impossible to provide a short term quantitative assessment of situations expected in the long term, the countries' strategic approach to sustainable development could be assessed using the extent to which the principles for action which stem from the aims of sustainable development have been respected or taken on board:

- The polluter pays principle: which involves the external costs of economic activity being borne at internal level.
- The principle of integration which means dynamic interplay between the various parts which make up the environment, and development activity.
- The subsidiarity principle which codifies the relations of inter-dependence between the global and the local level.
- The precautionary principle which advocates prevention and caution.

Finally, the assessment of countries' sustainable development strategies will be based on methods for sounding out and understanding given situations:

- retrospective knowledge (1995) about the situation in the different countries based on selected socio-economic data available from the Blue Plan in particular (initial picture).
- updated knowledge (2000) based on the results of the country questionnaire.
- confirmation (or invalidation) of the development trend when compared with the forecasts from the available prospective scenarios (2000).

The assessment could cover the following six environmental components and sectors of activity:

- soil, water, forests, coasts, sea, atmosphere.
- agro-food production, industry, energy, tourism, transport and sustainable development.

It should also cover the extent to which these areas are polluted by the production of solid, liquid and gaseous waste.

It is highly likely that the general trends will be confirmed ( the short time lapse since 1995 or even 1990, the difficulty and slowness with which structures, programmes and capacities are being built up mean that we cannot expect any spectacular results).

Maybe then the bottlenecks and sticking points should be assessed at the appropriate level in terms of the available potential.

Finally, the socio-economic development of the country in the Mediterranean context will be assessed in the light of the economic, political and socio-cultural response to the general external conditions it has had to face.

Environmental development will be assessed using the ecological review of the various areas and natural resources based on relevant environmental indicators, as well as land use policies: protection, preferential activities, banned activities, etc....

Developments in land planning will allow the efficiency of the country's political and administrative system to be assessed (legislative, statutory and institutional system) in the face of pressures exerted by the socio-economic (and even geo-political) system.

For the Mediterranean region as a whole, there is no longer any doubt about the need for a steering system for the changes coming about as a result of both internal and external factors.

Present day changes mean that several different futures can be forecast.

It is up to the MAP system to help build a strategic approach towards a desirable sustainable development situation.

This will require objective information about the situations prevailing in each country, and the ability to imagine more long term developments so that the priorities for action towards sustainable development can be credibly assessed.

Both the strong and weak points of MAP must therefore be assessed at their true value, in its regional approach aimed at an overall understanding of the Mediterranean system, its follow-up and taking into account of the environmental priorities which will be a determining factor in the socio-economic development and well-being of Mediterranean people.

The effectiveness of its work could be assessed through:

- the exhaustive nature of the information, follow-up and monitoring system which has been introduced in order to characterise the region's environment and development.
- the proposed overall interpretation of the Mediterranean system and its foreseeable futures.
- the credibility of the prospective instruments applied in order to clarify the long term impact of socio-economic development on the environment, and their interest as an instrument for intra-Mediterranean dialogue.
- the relevance of the main problem areas for sustainable development dealt with by its structures, and the feasibility of the aims proposed.
- the ability to initiate and encourage synergy-generating activities which can be transposed into national policies.
- the development of a technical-scientific partnership between the countries in the region, and of Mediterranean know-how in observing and evaluating sustainable development processes.
- the identification and mobilisation of actors in civil society at different levels for awareness raising and training.
- the ability to shape recommendations and proposals for action and to assist governments in decision taking in order to rectify policies and actions undertaken.
- the ability to drum up more interest on the part of the European Union, and international and Mediterranean instances about the region's concerns.
- scientific and technical documentation produced.
- bringing people closer together, and having exchange which can foster consultation and decision taking at the regional level.

### III. DRAFT TABLE OF CONTENTS OF THE REPORT

#### **Introduction:**

\_ The reasons for the review.

. 1995+5

- . to test the effectiveness of the revised Mediterranean structures
- . to assess the degree of motivation amongst States and civil society.

- Birth of the project, remit and deadlines.

#### **1. Reminder of the objectives of the review and the methodological approach**

- General objectives.

- . to brush up the image of the Mediterranean as an eco-region which wants to harness the active forces within civil society to promote sustainable development.
- . to increase the clout of the Mediterranean within UNEP's regional seas programme and vis a vis the UN-CSD.
- . to have a realistic inventory of the situation at different levels in order to facilitate reflection and assist in decision taking.
- . to provide the necessary political impetus to launch the structures anew.

- Specific objectives.

- . to highlight the weaknesses and constraints which affect the Mediterranean system.  
(particularly MAP).
- . to show the progress and success which has been achieved at both national and local level.
- . to assess the support provided by the Mediterranean partners.
- . to propose relevant programmes of action in a sustainable development perspective.

- Methodological approach

- . study group structure.
- . work organisation and planning.
- . partners affected by the objective assessment.
- . mobilisation of governmental institutions.
- . validation of national information.
- . listing of sources.

#### **2. Development stakes in the Mediterranean.**

- Brief reminder of the Mediterranean context.

- . particular geographical, climatic and demographic context.
- . fragile state of natural resources.
- . essential development characteristics.
- . significant figures.

- vital issues in the region.

. at socio-economic level.

- Demographic pressure
- Energy-consuming industry

Demand for agricultural water  
 Rise of tourism and open air leisure activities  
 Rapid urbanisation  
 The development of transport (including maritime and urban).

- . at environmental level
  - shrinking forest cover
  - soil deterioration
  - pressure on water resources
  - loss of biodiversity
  - air pollution
  - uncontrolled "littoralisation"
  - deterioration of the marine environment
  - encroaching salination
  - increase in solid domestic and industrial waste.

### **3. Sustainable development for the Mediterranean.**

- The instruments

- . a negotiated conventional framework
- . a structured Mediterranean Action Programme
- . a Mediterranean Agenda 21
- . updated regional priorities
- . a representative structure for reflection
- . responsible contracting parties.

- MAP activities since 1990, and particularly since 1995.

- . actions undertaken by MAP structures related to the established priorities:
  - integrating environment and development
  - integrated management of natural resources
  - integrated management of coastal areas
  - waste management
  - agriculture
  - industry and energy
  - transport
  - tourism
  - urban development and the environment
  - information
  - assessment and control of marine pollution
  - conservation of nature, landscapes and sites.

. MAP actions related to the drawing up and revision of the texts of the protocols to the Barcelona convention and the impact of these texts on country behaviour.

. MCSD actions and the review of activities undertaken since 1996 on the 8 priority themes selected, in terms of strategic recommendations and proposals for action to the contracting parties:

- water demand management
- sustainable management of coastal areas
- indicators of sustainable development
- tourism



information, awareness raising, environmental education and participation  
free trade and the environment  
industry  
urban development

- Support activities by the Mediterranean partners.

- . METAP actions
- . Euro-Mediterranean actions
- . Actions by instances of the United Nations' system
- . CEDARE's actions
- . Actions by the Mediterranean NGOs.
- The activities of the contracting parties

- .Legal and statutory measures:

setting up of institutions responsible for matters related to the environment  
setting up of national commissions for sustainable development  
ratification of the Barcelona convention and its protocols  
ratification of the relevant world conventions  
promulgation of legal instruments for environmental protection.

- . Measures towards sustainable development:

national sustainable development strategy  
national Agenda 21  
national environment action plan  
environmental education  
natural resource management  
combating desertification  
combating pollution  
mobilising civil society

- . Implementation of Mediterranean programmes:

support for MAP II's priority actions  
participation in MCSD activities  
taking account of the MCSD's recommendations and proposals for action  
preparation and implementation of local Agendas 21  
NGO activities in a sustainable development perspective  
taking account of the principles of Agenda Med 21

#### **4. Performance of the policies applied.**

- Respecting the principles of sustainable development
- Evaluation:

- . in terms of economic efficiency whilst retaining the natural capital.
- . in terms of environmental integrity.
- . in terms of social equity.

## 5. Shortcomings and loopholes in present policies.

- At MAP level
- At contracting party level

## 6. Recommendations and proposals for action.

- . for renewed political impetus towards sustainable development
- . for more consistent monitoring of the state of the environment
- . for more effective synergy between regional and national partners
- . for more effective implementation of MAP recommendations
- . for genuine integration of the environment and development
- . for the respect of Agenda MED 21's principles for action.

## IV. Questionnaire on the environmental performance of the countries of the Mediterranean basin.

The aim is to attempt to assess the environmental performance achieved by the contracting parties at national level, with reference to the objectives set and the international commitments entered into in terms of:

- the effectiveness of environmental policies implemented to combat pollution and to conserve nature.
- the integration of environmental concerns in all sectoral policies.
- the effectiveness of co-operation with the Mediterranean and international communities.

Assessing the performance of a country means weighing up the results achieved by the State and actors in civil society in the implementation of environmental policy. In the absence of quantitative objectives set for established deadlines, reference will be made to the declared aims of national policy but also to political decisions, rules laid down at international level which bind countries, and recommendations which are generally accepted by experts.

In principle, any effective environmental policy sets aims which in the long term are likely to protect the country against the stagnation which the irreversible depletion of resources would lead to in the future.

Preventive action can ensure the sustainable use of resources whilst at the same time making it possible to avert new forms of pollution.

However it means that economic policies must be revised and there must be tougher regulation, more political will and better management.

Despite an indisputable increase in awareness, State efforts have not gone far enough. At the very most the initiatives taken have only succeeded in slowing down the deterioration process.

The causes which underlie this deterioration process are well-known:

- imperfect control of demographic growth
- inappropriate politico-economic choices
- ineffectual administrative and regulatory systems
- insufficient awareness amongst public opinion
- limited political will
- biased understanding of the phenomena which threaten the environment
- poor support in building up institutions and capacity.

The assessment will essentially focus on progress achieved:

- in easing or controlling pressure exerted on resources and the environment
- in integrating environment into development
- in implementing multilateral agreements.

#### **A. Controlling the pressures exerted on the environment and resources.**

Information to be collected covers:

##### 1. Pollution of the marine environment.

###### 1.1 Combating pollution from ships.

- . Implementation of the MARPOL convention, the Barcelona convention and its protocols?
- . Creation of ballast removal points in ports?
- . National measures to ensure the safety of navigation (safety of vessels, navigation conditions, legal provisions on shipping, intervention, combating accidental pollution, damage repairation).

###### 1.2. Combating pollution from offshore oil installations.

- . Specific regulations?

##### 2. The pollution of coastal waters.

###### 2.1. Preventing and combating pollution of industrial origin.

- . Promoting clean industry: ecolabels?
- . Classification of industrial plants?
- . Setting waste standards?
- . specific regulation?
- . elimination of black spots?

###### 2.2 Preventing pollution of urban origin.

- . increase in urban wastewater treatment rate between 1995 and 2000 (or the number of treatment plants or the number of inhabitant equivalents).

##### 3. Monitoring the quality of the marine environment.

- . coastal waters observation network?
- . quality of bathing waters monitoring network?

##### 4. Maritime activities.

- . regulation of fisheries, to counter excessive trawling, and to counter poaching in prohibited areas?
- . regulation to protect the coastal lagoons used for aquaculture?
- . research activities for the protection of the marine environment?

##### 5. Air pollution.

### 5.1. Monitoring the air.

- . Setting up of measuring and alarm networks?

### 5.2. Combating air pollution.

- . creation of standards for waste released into the air?
- . plan for reducing polluting industrial emissions?
- . controlling pollution from exhaust fumes?
- . tax on air pollution?
- . energy saving plan?
- . development plan for renewable energies?
- . development of co-generation?
- . priority given to use of natural gas?

## 6. Water on land

### 6.1. Rational water management.

- . does the legislative framework recognise that water is a form of heritage?
- . national monitoring network for water resources and their quantitative and qualitative development as a tool for understanding and assisting decision taking?
- . decisions taken towards integrated and sustainable management of the resource? (control of tapping off and demand in particular):

institutional reform of the sector  
management planning  
statutory instruments  
economic instruments.

### 6.2. Water pollution.

- . measures for combating water pollution?  
Pollution of agricultural origin: control of pesticides and fertilisers  
Pollution of industrial origin: application of the polluter pays principle  
Pollution of domestic origin: sewage works.
- . clean up dues?

## 7. Soil management and conservation

### 7.1. Combating the erosion of slopes.

- . measures to preserve land needed for the maintenance and development of agricultural, pastoral and forestry activity

### 7.2. Rehabilitation of deteriorated land.

- . programme of conservation work for water and soil?
- . action plan to combat desertification?
- . measures to combat soil salination?
- . measures to combat soil contamination?

## 8. Management of solid waste.

### 8.1. Household waste

- . institutional initiatives?
- . measures to reduce and regulate unofficial tips?
- . development plan for organised dumps?
- . measures towards selective collection?
- . specific measures for hospital waste?

### 8.2. Reuse of organic waste

- . programme for composting and agricultural reuse of compost?
- . treatment and reuse of residual sediment?

### 8.3. Industrial waste

- . rational management and treatment of industrial and hazardous waste?
- . national action plan?
- . specific dumps? Incineration plants?

### 8.4. Legislative and statutory measures.

- . promulgation of a national law on waste?
- . drafting of directives and standards?
- . measures for preventing or reducing the production and harmfulness of waste?
- . measures to promote clean technologies?
- . measures for organising the transport of waste?
- . measures for the reuse and recycling of waste (paper, cardboard, glass, plastic, metal)?
- . waste dues?

## 9. Forests.

### 9.1. Land and plant health protection.

- . do you have a national inventory of forests?
- . do you carry out long term scientific observation and monitoring of the forests?
- . measures for sustainable forest management?

### 9.2. Protection against fires.

- . measures towards the surveillance and equipping of forest areas?
- . reforestation programme?
- . programme for exploitation of agricultural, forest and pastoral areas?
- . increasing the logistical means for fighting forest fires?
- . measures for raising the awareness of and motivating the public?

## 10. Biotopes

### 10.1. Protection of ecosystems.

- . institutional initiatives?
- . legislative and statutory measures for protecting the wetlands, agricultural land, natural areas of ecological interest?
- . do you have a national law on the protection of nature?
- . do you have an action plan for long term protection?
- . have you drawn up an inventory of natural sites of fauna and flora-related interest?

### 10.2. Protection of threatened species.

- . legal measures for the protection of threatened species?
- . practical actions for the surveillance and management of their land, coastal and aquatic habitats?
- . operations to reintroduce species which have disappeared
- . national botanical conservatories
- . specific measures for migrating birds
- . stamping out breaches of Cites
- . land buying for nature-related ends

## 11. Controlling town planning

### 11.1 Instruments for urban control

- . do you have a law on land planning?
- . institution of master-plans?
- . institution of land use plans?
- . institution of impact assessments?
- . do you have town policies aimed at sustainable development?
- . local Agendas 21?
- . promotion of high environmental quality buildings?

### 11.2 Control of coastal development

- . measures to protect and manage the coast at legal, legislative and institutional level
- . economic instruments for the protection of the tourist environment
- . measures towards sustainable tourism.

## **B. Integrating the environment in development.**

Information to be collected covers:

- . the environmental impact of economic development and the economic impact of environment policies
- . measures adopted towards integrating environment policies in the main sectors of activity such as agriculture, energy, transport, tourism etc.

### 1. At institutional and legislative level

- . creation of an environmental code?
- . setting up of a body for inter-ministerial co-ordination: National commission for sustainable development?

- . adoption of national Agenda 21?
- . setting up of a national environment and development observatory?

## 2. At governmental planning level

- . have environmental concerns been integrated into the country's economic and social development plans, and approved by parliament?
- . have the principles of sustainable development been reflected in the national plan for land planning?
- . do sectoral master-plans embody the new lines being advocated?
- . does public administration set the example in terms of means of production and particularly consumption (saving water, energy, etc.)?
- . what measures are taken to compensate environmental spending by job creation (eco-industry), or by improving competitiveness (new technologies, new outlets)?
- . legislative and statutory progress

## 3. At implementing level

### 3.1 Statutory instruments used

- . does administrative authorisation include environmental protection orders?
- . do checks on listed plants include the preventive approach amongst their provisions?
- . is the impact assessment compulsory?
- . does the application of rules cover all players (companies, town councils, state controlled plants)?
- . do sites presenting a technological risk have specific contingency plans?
- . is there any penalty for non-respect of the environment?

Breach of rules on combating pollution  
Breach of rules on plants listed as dangerous  
Breach of town planning rules  
Breach of rules on hunting and fishing

### 3.2. Economic instruments used

- . taxes and fees: are they pitched at a level allowing vital environmental protection programmes to be financed?
- Water pollution, removal of household waste, special industrial waste, air pollution, treatment of waste oil.
- . environmentally friendly subsidies and tax incentives (depollution funds)
  - . withdrawal or reduction of subsidies to economic sectors which impair the state of the environment?
  - . civil liability insurance system for accidental pollution covering clean-up costs?

### 3.3 Private sector initiatives

- . voluntary agreements between the public authorities and certain sectors of industry to meet environmental objectives?
- . eco-labelling and green plans for major firms?
- . promotion of delegated management?

### 3.4 Promoting public information

- . Specific measures?

### 3.5 Promoting the role of environmental research

- . institutional capacity building?
- . management of major priority programmes?
- . setting up of environmental data bases?
- . development of eco-technologies?

### 3.6 Increasing environmental education

- . opening primary and secondary education up to environmental problems?
- . development of environmental training courses in universities?
- . exchange between universities and participation in sustainable development programmes in the Mediterranean region?

### 3.7 Continuous education

- . setting up of host structures and structures for environmental training. Information training courses, teaching workshops, technological transfer, networks?
- . promotion of environment-related professions?
- . capacity building in the environmental services of the local authorities?

### 3.8 Awareness raising

- . celebration of environment days?
- . environmental clean-up campaigns?
- . support and encouragement for the NGOs?
- . media access for environmental players?
- . promotion of environmental films?

## **C. Implementation of multilateral agreements.**

The information to be collected concerns:

#### 1. At Mediterranean level:

- . ratification of the Barcelona convention and its protocols?
- . implementation of MAP and MCSD recommendations?
- . implementation of Agenda Med 21 recommendations?

#### 2. At Euro-Mediterranean and regional level:

- . implementation of the priority actions of the Nicosia Charter?
  - Integrated management of coastal zones
  - Nature conservation
  - Mediterranean plant canopy management
  - Waste management
    - Monitoring of Mediterranean ecosystems and increased checks on shipping
    - Reducing waste of energy and use of alternative sources of energy
    - Increased exchange of experience
- . implementation of the priority phase of the Cairo declaration's action programme aimed at defining national strategies for sustainable development and implementing inter-sectoral systems for integrating economic policies and the environment in each Mediterranean country?



. co-operation with the EC?

Environmental action programmes  
Renewed Mediterranean policy  
MEDSPA, LIFE  
MEDA, SMAP

. the other regional programmes and organisations

METAP  
ICSEM (international commission for the scientific exploration of the  
Mediterranean sea)  
CEDARE

3. At world level

. ratification and implementation of international legal instruments affecting sustainable  
development

International convention on climate change  
Bale Convention on the control of transboundary movements of  
hazardous waste and their disposal  
Convention for the protection of the ozone layer  
Convention on the combating of desertification

. co-operation with the United Nations agencies?

FAO: ME DRAP aquaculture project?  
UNESCO: MAB project?  
UNDP?  
Etc.

4. Others:

. co-operation with the associations  
. participation in networks

## **V. TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR DRAWING UP A “STRATEGIC REVIEW FOR THE YEAR 2000”.**

### **1. INTRODUCTION**

After the Rio Conference, the community of contracting parties to the Barcelona Convention and its protocols extended its concerns about environmental protection to the land, and adopted the notion of sustainable development which underlies Agenda 21.

It drew up an Agenda MED 21 by giving a Mediterranean slant to Agenda 21, highlighting the priorities in the region and identifying partners and tools for its implementation.

It revised, updated and refocused MAP activities so that the challenges posed by sustainable development and the irreversible nature of effects on the environment and resources could be better taken into account.

It provided MAP with a Mediterranean Commission for Sustainable Development as an advisory body.

Since 1995 through the Coordinating Unit and the structures of MAP it has undertaken certain new activities related to important questions of both a socio-economic and environmental nature, and has developed multilateral cooperation in order to stir up impetus towards sustainable development in the countries of the region.

Now it intends to draw up an exhaustive assessment of the past five years of activity in order to identify the weak points in the system and to assess the scope of what has been done by all the partners involved (decision by the 11<sup>th</sup> ordinary meeting of contracting parties held in Malta in October 1999).

## **2. THE STUDY'S GENERAL APPROACH**

The requested study, the terms of reference of which are dealt with in this document, slots into the general context of the Barcelona Convention for the protection of the Mediterranean sea against pollution and its protocols, the Mediterranean Action Plan and the Mediterranean Commission for Sustainable Development. It squares entirely with the relevant resolution adopted by the 11<sup>th</sup> meeting of the contracting parties to the Barcelona Convention which talks of undertaking a strategic review of the implementation of the principles of the Agenda MED 21 programme. (The draft remit for this review is to be found in annex IV of document UNEP (OCA)/MED WG 156/3).

It aims at providing MAP and the contracting parties with a realistic appraisal of progress achieved towards sustainable development in terms of political commitment at various levels, administrative decisions and their implementation. The general aim of the study is to put an exhaustive list of questions arising to the 6<sup>th</sup> meeting of the MCSD to be held in Tunis in November 2000 so that new impetus can be given to work in common.

Bearing this general objective in mind the study aims to:

- a) analyse and assess the programmes undertaken by MAP and all its structures since 1995.
- b) analyse and assess the work undertaken by MAP's partners to support these programmes.
- c) analyse and assess the initiatives taken by the contracting parties in the context of the UNCED, the Barcelona Convention and MAP.
- d) assess the performance of policies implemented to promote sustainable development.
- e) draw up a list of the flaws and weaknesses which hamper this encouragement.
- f) produce recommendations and proposals for action likely to increase implementation of decisions adopted.

## **3. CARRYING OUT THE STUDY**

The study shall be co-ordinated by three experts representing the North, the South, and MAP respectively.

An "authorised" national expert for each of the countries involved shall be responsible for collecting the available information, carrying out the necessary consultation, analysing any ad hoc documentation and summarising the answers to the proposed questionnaires.

The national report shall be validated by each contracting party.

An independent expert shall be responsible for assessing the work of the Mediterranean NGOs and organisations.

An expert shall analyse how the Barcelona system works in order to identify any weak points which undermine its effectiveness.

He/she shall also assess the relative importance and impact of the partnerships established. A steering group made up of the MAP Secretariat plus representatives from Greece, Tunisia, the city of Rome, the EOAEN and the MIO-ECSDE shall supervise the study's progress which shall respect the following timetable:

21 January 2000: approval of the terms of reference for the study by the MCSD's Steering Committee

1 February 2000: launch of the study

30 March: update and review meeting for the co-ordinating team.

30 April: submission of reports by the national experts and the other two independent experts.

30 May: summary meeting with the strategic review steering group.

30 June 2000: (31 July 2000 at the latest): submission of a major document for comment by the Contracting Parties, the members of the MCSD and other concerned parties.

Mid-September 2000: meeting of the co-ordinating team and the steering group to complete the report.

30 September: final work-over of the document by the MAP Secretariat.

15 October 2000: final document, in 2 languages.

#### **4. SERVICES TO BE PROVIDED BY THE EXPERTS, AND OBLIGATIONS**

1. The experts in the coordinating team shall be responsible for summarising the salient points of the national reports, the report on the work of the Mediterranean NGOs and organisations, and the report on MAP activities:
  - This fifty page summary shall reflect the headway made by countries but also the flaws and shortcomings of policies implemented, and should make it possible to assess countries' environmental performance as well as the effectiveness of the Barcelona system.
  - The experts in the co-ordinating team shall draw up recommendations deemed appropriate to rectify any flaws revealed, as well as the proposals for action felt useful in order to increase the effectiveness of policies and to strengthen the strategic aspects of their implementation by MAP, the contracting parties, and all the partners involved.
  - They shall pool their analyses and harmonise their approach during the two joint working groups of a few days each (late March and late May) in order to finalise a coherent strategic approach to implementation.
  - In mid September they shall organise a meeting with the strategic review steering group in order to validate the conclusions of the study and the suggested approach.
  - To carry out this study the experts in the co-ordinating group shall be able to draw on the opinion and support of MAP and the official representatives of the contracting parties.
  - Besides the final report, the reports by the national experts and those covering the workings of the Barcelona system, the work of the Mediterranean NGOs and organisations shall also be submitted.
2. The national experts participating in the study shall be fully conversant with the environmental policy of their respective country, shall have been approved by the contracting party concerned and shall be able to count on the full support of the department responsible for environmental matters in the latter.
  - They shall be responsible for analysing the relevant national documentation relating to the implementation of decisions taken, recommendations made, principles for action

established at world, Mediterranean, national or local level since the UNCED in 1992 in general terms, and more specifically since 1995.

- For the purposes of the study they shall provide the most objective answers to the questionnaire made available to them and may complement them by any relevant additional information which sheds light on the environmental policy implemented, or justifies the development strategy applied.
  - On 30 April at the latest they shall submit the questionnaire plus an authorised national report of around ten pages which shall run through the political, legal and legislative, institutional, economic and technical facets of sustainable development in the country and shall mention the specific national aspects of the decision-taking process in this field.
3. The independent expert responsible for analysing the workings of the Barcelona system shall be fully conversant with the development, working methods, and programmes of MAP and its structures:
- He/she shall take a critical and objective look at the pros and cons of each component making up the system with an eye to
    - \* revealing any shortcomings or constraints which affect their efficiency
    - \* reducing duplication.
    - \* creating greater complementarity between activity programmes.
    - \*encouraging greater synergy between regional and national partners.
  - He/she shall assess the nature and importance of the support and the direct or indirect assistance tracked down or obtained by MAP from its Euro- Mediterranean and international partners since 1990, and particularly since 1995, with reference to the various declarations and political commitments made by the political, economic or financial bodies concerned: METAP, CEDARE, Euro-Mediterranean partnership (SMAP, MEDA, LIFE), FAO, UNESCO, UNDP.
  - He/she shall propose a set of recommendations likely to improve the work of MAP and its structures in terms of political impetus for the contracting parties and proposals for strategic action towards sustainable development for the public decision-makers and economic operators.
  - He/she shall have the total backing of MAP through its coordinating unit and regional activity centres as well as through the MCSD's steering committee.
  - At the request of MAP he/she shall take part in the planned working groups.
  - He/she shall submit a report of around 20 pages summarising the results of his/her analyses, his/her investigations and proposals.
4. The independent expert responsible for examining input from the Mediterranean NGOs and organisations shall be conversant with the activities and initiatives of civil society on a regional scale:
- He/she shall assess in particular the contribution made to the promotion of sustainable development by the Mediterranean networks and associations representative of the actors in civil society in its various facets, picking out the high points of work completed since 1995, those areas where this work has been particularly effective and ways in which the dynamism and motivation of the associations could help speed up the decision-taking process.
  - He/she shall pay particular attention to the NGOs, professional organisations and local authorities which enjoy privileged relations with MAP and take part in its activities.
  - He/she shall provide an initial assessment of the trial involvement of these representatives of civil society in the MCSD's activities.
  - At the request of MAP he/she shall participate in the meetings foreseen.

- He/she shall draw up a report of around twenty pages setting out the key ways in which they can better help mobilise Mediterranean public opinion on MAP's themes and watchwords for achieving sustainable development.

**ANNEX III  
THEMATIC WORKING GROUPS**

<b>Themes</b>	<b>Task managers</b>	<b>Members of the group</b>	<b>Support from MAP*</b>
- Sustainable management of coastal zones (completed, October 1997)	Morocco and MEDCITIES	CREE, European Community, Greece, City of Rome, Spain, EcoMediterrania, Monaco, WWF, Italy, EOAEN, Cyprus, France, Tunisia, MIO-ESCDE, Egypt, Malta, Albania, Lebanon, Algeria, FIS	RAC/PAP, RAC/BP, RAC/ERS and RAC/SPA
- Management of water demand (completed, October 1997)	Tunisia and Morocco	Libya, WWF, APNEK, European Community, Egypt, Italy, France, CEFIC, MIO-ESCDE, Malta, Spain, EcoMediterrania, CEDARE, Cyprus, Israel, Algeria, Turkey, Bosnia & Herzegovina	RAC/BP and RAC/PAP
- Sustainable development indicators (completed, October 1999)	France and Tunisia	European Community, Morocco, EcoMediterranean, Greece, Israel, Spain, Slovenia, Turkey, Lebanon, Algeria, Municipality of Silifke	RAC/BP
- Tourism and Sustainable Development (completed, October 1999)	Spain, EOAEN and Egypt	Malta, Monaco, Cyprus, Croatia, European Community, Greece, EcoMediterrania, WWF MIO-ESCDE, ASCAME, Slovenia, Libya, Turkey, Lebanon	RAC/BP and RAC/PAP
- Information, awareness and participation (completed, October 1999)	MIO-ESCDE and CREE	European Community, WWF, France, APNEK, Croatia, Egypt, Morocco, MEDCITIES, EcoMediterrania, Albania, Algeria, Libya, Lebanon	MED Coordinating Unit
- Free trade and environment in the Euromediterranean context (strategic impact assessment) (to be completed in 2001)	Lebanon France	Tunisia, France, European Community, <u>APNEK</u> , Morocco, <u>MIO-ESCDE</u> , Algeria, <u>ASCAME</u> , <u>FIS</u> , Bosnia & Herzegovina, WWF, <i>MED Forum</i>	RAC/ BP MED Coordinating Unit
- Industry and sustainable development (cultural, economic, technical and financial aspects of progressive elimination of land-based pollution) (to be completed in 2001)	Italy, Algeria	WWF, Israel, EOAEN, <u>ASCAME</u> , <u>CEFIC</u> , Spain, European Community, Turkey, Tunisia, <u>RME</u>	MED POL, RAC/CP
- Management of urban development (to be completed in 2001)	Egypt, MEDCITIES, Turkey	<u>FIS</u> , <u>MIO-ESCDE</u> , Spain, Morocco, France, Malta, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Algeria, CEDARE, EC, Slovenia, Cyprus, <u>RME</u> , <i>MEDCOAST</i> , <i>MED Forum</i>	RAC/PAP and RAC/BP

\* The Coordinating Unit and the Regional Activity Centres will each provide the necessary support to the different working groups according to their respective expertise.

\*\* (underlined):outgoing members

\*\*\*(italic): new members

**ANNEX IV**  
**Sixth Meeting of the MCSD , 21-24 novembre, Tunis**  
**Draft Provisional Agenda**

	21 November	22 November	23 November	24 November
09.00-11.00h	<u>Plenary:</u> <Opening <Adoption of the provisional agenda <Strategic review and general discussion	<u>Working Groups:</u>  (cont.)	<u>Working Groups:</u> < by major issue or set of themes for future programme of work.	<u>Plenary:</u> < Results of the Working Groups and discussions
11.00-11.30h	Coffee Break			
11.30-13.00h	<u>Plenary:</u> <Ministerial Segment on Sustainable Development in the Mediterranean, vision and role of MAP/MCSD.	<u>Working Groups:</u>  (cont. and end)	<u>Groups:</u>  (cont. and end)	<u>Free</u> (preparation of the report by the Secretariat)
13.00-14.30h	Lunch Break			
14.30-16.30h	<u>Plenary:</u> <Cont. Ministerial Segment with presentations and discussions.	<u>Plenary:</u> <Results of the discussions by the Working Groups.	<u>Working Groups:</u> <Free Trade; <Industry; <Urban Development.	<u>16.00h</u> Adoption of conclusions and set of decisions.
16.30-17.00h	Coffee Break			
17.00-18.30h	<u>Working Groups:</u> <Regional Cooperation and partners; <Sustainable Development Actors; <Institutional, political and legal framework; <Capacity Building; <Scales issue: regional versus global and national .	<u>Plenary:</u> < Proposals of recommendations and actions for a Mediterranean Strategy on Sustainable Development.	<u>Working Groups:</u>  (cont. and end)	