



United Nations Environment Programme



UNEP (OCA)/MED WG.2/5
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MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN

First Meeting of the
Socio-Economic Committee

Athens, 27-29 September 1988

PROGRESS REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION
OF PRIORITY ACTIONS PROGRAMME COVERING
THE PERIOD JANUARY - JUNE 1988

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I BACKGROUND INFORMATION

1. The Meeting of National Focal Points for PAP held in Split on 22-24 June, 1987 reviewed the progress made in the period 1986-1987 and discussed the proposed 1988-1989 PAP Workplan and budget.
2. The Fifth Ordinary Conference of the Contracting Parties held in Athens in September 1987 discussed, among others, the implementation of PAP Workplan for 1988-1989 and budget for 1988.
3. A detailed report on the implementation of PAP in 1987 is contained in the document UNEP(OCA)/MED WG.2/4.
4. Being a provisional document, this report is presented in a summarized form, except for the part which gives a survey of major results.

II FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES

The approved budget of PAP for 1988 is US\$ 710,000. However, due to belated payments of contribution by some Contracting Parties and, consequently, due to the resulting scarcity of MTF, it was not possible to secure a steady inflow of resources approved for PAP. That was the reason why some activities had to be postponed for the second half of the year and some financial obligations have not been met. Such unfavourable conditions dictated the priorities which have been given to the activities directly related to the refocussing of PAP on integrated planning and management of coastal zones, and to the achievement of the Genoa Declaration goals.

III SUMMARY OF COMPLETED ACTIVITIES

1. Seminars, workshops, major meetings:
 - The First Steering Committee Meeting - Co-operative Project for Seismic Risk Reduction in the Mediterranean Region (Genoa, 6-8 April, 1988).
 - Workshop on the Methodology of Studying and Presenting the Spatial Development of Historic Buildings and Towns (Genoa, 25-27 May, 1988).
 - Meeting on the Common Methodological Framework for Integrated Planning and Management Process in Mediterranean Coastal Areas (Izmir, 29 June - 1 July, 1988).
2. Expert meetings: 25 meetings (1 in "Water Resources"; 3 in "Integrated planning"; 2 in "Earthquake zones"; 1 in "Solid and Liquid Waste"; 2 in "Soil protection"; 2 in "Tourism"; 2 in "Aquaculture"; 1 in "Renewable Sources of Energy"; 2 in "Environmental Impact Assessment"; and 7 within 4 country pilot projects).

3. Expert missions:

- Missions to Rhodos related to "Historic settlements" and "Solid and Liquid Waste Management", 13-15 June.
- Mission to Cyprus - preparation of EIA on 2 projects, 24-29 May.
- Mission to Izmir - EIA on stabilization ponds, 3-6 June.

IV MAJOR RESULTS

1. Refocussing of PAP on integrated planning and management of Mediterranean coastal zones

As explained in detail in the Workplan proposal for 1988-1989 (UNEP/WG.170/8), the refocussing of PAP on integrated planning and management is based on: (a) PAP country pilot projects (CPP) as a specific form of direct and lasting cooperation with local and national experts and institutions in selected coastal areas, with the accent being placed on integrated planning and management, and with merging and interlinking of results and experiences achieved in other priority actions; (b) region-specific methodological documents and tools for integrated planning and management of coastal zones; and (c) practical training in the topics which are emphasized by the Genoa Declaration, and which supplement the activities under (a) and (b).

Following the preparatory activities completed in the course of 1987 PAP started out implementing the envisaged programmes in CPPs Syria (the coastal area), Turkey (the Bay of Izmir), and Yugoslavia (the Kastela Bay). The projects in Greece (Rhodos) and Cyprus (Paphos) are still in the preparatory stage.

(a) The Syrian coast project.

The project envisages the preparation of a preliminary study for the integrated plan of the entire Syrian coast, and the formulation of recommendations for the recovery of the endangered coastal areas. It further envisages the preparation of a programme for the preliminary study, preparation of documents for the training of Syrian experts, organization of the training, and the participation of PAP consultants in various phases of the study preparation. The preliminary study programme has been completed, while the training documents are being prepared.

(b) The Izmir Bay project

This project includes the elaboration by PAP consultants of an engineering approach to the treatment and disposal of municipal waste water; the preparation of EIA on stabilization ponds; and the cooperation with the Metropolitan Municipality of Izmir - Environment Department (training, setting up monitoring programme, consultations on selected topics) and Department of Urban Planning and Seismic Risk Mitigation (preparatory activities to lead to the preparation of the preliminary study for the area of Izmir). The following has been completed so far: 3 mission reports and a set of documents related to

the problems of submarine-outfall discharges, recovery of the Izmir Bay, and assessment of the assimilative capacity of the Bay. EIA on stabilization ponds is under way. This project has included MEDPOL and a number of Turkish institutions which are carrying out a separate monitoring programme and an oceanographic study. All these activities are well harmonized and co-ordinated.

(c) The Kastela Bay project

This PAP project is part of a comprehensive project entitled "Management of Natural Resources of the Kastela Bay" which has been financed by national and local funds. PAP contribution to this project envisages the determination of the assimilative capacity of the Bay, engineering and environmental support to the definition of a wastewater treatment system, design criteria for submarine outfalls, introduction of environmental criteria into the strategy of aquaculture development in the Bay, and recommendations for some urgent actions to reduce or eliminate pollution in the most polluted areas. The methodology for determining the assimilative capacity of the Bay has been set up and 3 documents for the aquaculture project have been produced. The Yugoslav institutions and experts have started simultaneously an additional monitoring programme.

(d) Project on water resources management of the Island of Malta

This specific project includes the following activities: collection of necessary data for and the preparation of a general (and later on, specific) model of the island aquifer; preparation of a climatic model; instructions for the aquifer management; instructions for land use and protection of the aquifer from pollution; preparation of a general model of water resources and management instructions. The contribution of PAP consists of a support to the preparation of the general aquifer model and organization of training, and of a professional cooperation with national institutions and experts in the formulation of the project, preparation of tenders, appraisal of bids, and consultations during the project. In 1988, PAP has taken part in the appraisal of bids and produced terms of reference for the preparation of the general model of the island aquifer.

(e) The Rhodos project

This project is meant to be a joint effort of all the components of MAP. PAP has commissioned an on-site report and participated in two preparatory meetings (Athens and Rhodos). Two PAP expert missions (on liquid waste management, and on historic settlements) have been envoyed to the island. In addition to two mission reports, PAP/RAC produced a proposal for PAP involvement in the project.

2. Co-operative projects

(a) Seismic Risk Reduction in the Mediterranean Region.

After a series of postponements caused by organizational and other problems (see the report on the implementation of PAP in 1987), this project was launched at the First Meeting of the Project Steering Committee (Genoa, 4-8 April 1988). However, all necessary conditions have not yet been created for the efficient and appropriate carrying out of the project. PAP/RAC feels that an updated information should be requested from UNDP/OPS or from the Project Manager designate by the beginning of September in order to be

submitted to the First Meeting of the Socio-Economic Committee.

- (b) Inventory and Network of Erosion Measurements in the Mediterranean Region for an Environmentally Sound Land Management.

Two meetings with the representatives of Spanish institutions (ICONA and the Spanish authorities) have been organized, and the 1988-1989 programme has been defined. National reports on the state and problems of rainfall erosion have been commissioned and a programme determined for the Workshop to be held in Spain in November 1988.

- (c) Definition of Ecological Criteria for a Rational Development and Protection of Aquaculture in Mediterranean Coastal Zones.

Two meetings have been convened with the representatives of the Italian authorities to identify their interest in and possibilities for hosting this project. The Italian authorities appointed one expert to further elaborate the project proposal for which he has had consultations with PAP experts in Split.

3. Training

Training documents on the following topics are being prepared:

- management and maintenance of urban liquid waste treatment plants in the Mediterranean region (with CEFIGRE - France);
- practical application of renewable energy sources in the Mediterranean region (with CIEMAT and Plataforma Solar de Almeria - Spain);
- methodology of the preparation of preliminary studies for integrated plans (with Urbanisticki zavod Dalmacije - Yugoslavia).

All the three training courses will be organized in the second half of 1988.

4. Tools and methodological documents relative to integrated planning and management of Mediterranean coastal zones

In the frame of several priority actions, tools and methodological documents have been prepared or are under way. In addition to being used in the follow up of these actions, they will be used in country pilot projects and in the integrated planning and management process.

The following have been completed:

- Draft Code of Practice for Solid Waste Management;
- Draft Code of Practice for Liquid Waste Management;
- methodological documents relative to the architectural survey, the analysis of actual state, and the analysis of spatial development of historic buildings and sites;

- guidelines for the application of the integrated process of reconstruction and rehabilitation of historic sites in the Mediterranean region;
- Common Methodological Framework for Integrated planning and Management in the Region (draft);
- methodology and contents of preliminary studies for the preparation of integrated plans of coastal areas;
- a number of outputs produced in the frame of three PAP country pilot projects.

5. The catalytic function of PAP

Contacts with the potential host countries (see the report on the implementation of PAP in 1987) have continued with a view to defining the Programme and support in 1988 and 1989. These contacts have been particularly intensive with the Spanish authorities (renewable sources of energy, and cooperative project on rainfall erosion), the Italian authorities (cooperative project on aquaculture), and with the countries where pilot projects have been launched. It needs mentioning that for the pilot projects in Turkey and Yugoslavia considerable local resources have been secured. The participation of PAP in these projects is about 15 per cent of the funds.

V COMPLETED ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS PER PRIORITY ACTIONS

1. Support to PAP

- Report on the implementation of PAP in 1987; Progress report for the period January-June 1988; and Workplan and budget for 1989;
- one yearly, one half-yearly and one quarterly financial report submitted to MEDU and to MTF - Nairobi;
- two PAP Bulletins (No.4/87, No.1/88) in English, French and Arabic (300 copies);
- consultations and communication with MEDU, other components of MAP, UNEP, other UN Agencies, National Focal Points for PAP and PAP experts, consultants and institutions;
- publication of one volume of MAP Technical Report Series; four others are being prepared for printing;
- contacts to identify interest in PAP pilot projects in two countries.

2. Water resources development in Mediterranean islands and isolated coastal areas

- two meetings on the contents of documents relative to the project on water resources management in Mediterranean islands;
- terms of reference for mathematical modelling of aquifers in a Mediterranean island;

- preparatory activities for guidelines on the reuse of treated urban waste water for irrigation, and terms of reference for the guidelines (the planned expert meeting for the preparation of guidelines on water resources management had to be postponed due to lack of funds).

3. Integrated planning and management of Mediterranean coastal zones

- meeting with the Blue Plan on the incorporation of the BP results in integrated planning of Mediterranean coastal zones (7-8 January);
- meeting with Syrian experts to draft the programme of the preliminary study for the preparation of integrated plan of the Syrian coastal region - CPP/1988-89/SY/1 (Split, 1-3 February);
- meeting to review proposals for the contribution of PAP and MEDPOL in the rehabilitation programme of the Izmir Bay - CPP/1988-89/TR/EM.2 (Split, 30 March - 1 April);
- launching of the Kastela Bay CPP - a series of meetings with Yugoslav authorities and signing of the Letter of Understanding (on 14 April 1988);
- meeting with the Greek national and local authorities - preparatory steps for the Rhodes CPP (Athens, 18 March);
- ad hoc meeting for the preparation of draft Common Methodological Framework (Split, 15-16 April);
- MAP-level mission to Rhodes (13-15 June);
- documents produced in the framework of the Izmir CPP: (a) Fact-finding mission to assess the state of pollution of the Izmir Bay; (b) Environmental management and recovery of the Izmir Bay;
- expert meeting (Izmir, 29 June - 1 July) to discuss and evaluate the draft Common Methodological Framework for Integrated Planning and Management of Mediterranean Coastal Zones, with the participation of experts from 13 countries and representatives of UNESCO, UNCHS and UNDRO - PAP-4/EM.5/1.

4. Rehabilitation and reconstruction of Mediterranean historic settlements

- meeting with MEDU and the French authorities and institutions to prepare a conference on 100 historic sites of a common Mediterranean interest (Marseille, 28-29 February);
- Workshop (Genoa, 25-27 May) on studying and presenting the spatial development of historic buildings and towns in the Mediterranean region - PAP-5/W.2/1;

- meeting on the preparation of PAP guidelines for rehabilitation and management of Mediterranean historic settlements (Split, 7-8 June);
 - draft guidelines (prepared);
 - mission to Rhodes (13-15 June) - report.
5. Land use planning in Mediterranean earthquake zones
- meeting organized in Split from 12 to 14 January to re-edit the project document proposal and to prepare the First Meeting of the Steering Committee (UNDRO, PAP/RAC, Project Manager);
 - First Meeting of the Steering Committee (Genoa, 4-6 April);
 - meeting (Genoa, 22-23 May) to discuss modes of carrying into effect the decisions of the Steering Committee (Project Manager, UNDRO, PAP/RAC).
6. Solid and liquid waste collection, treatment and disposal
- Code of practice for solid waste management in the Mediterranean region - finalized and printed;
 - Code of practice for liquid waste management in the Mediterranean region - finalized and printed;
 - training documents for the course on management and maintenance of sewage treatment plants - in preparation, with CEFIGRE (France);
 - meeting with CEFIGRE to discuss the preparation of training documents (3-6 June, Sophie Antipolis);
 - mission to Rhodes (13-15 June);
 - activities related to mathematical modelling and guidelines on submarine outfalls had to be postponed due to lack of funds.
7. Promotion of soil protection as an essential component of the environmental protection in Mediterranean coastal zones
- Letter of Understanding on the hosting of the project signed with national authorities;
 - preparatory meeting to lead to the cooperative project, with the participation of the Spanish authorities and institutions, PAP/RAC, ACSAD and FAO (San Rafael, 14-16 March);
 - Reformulated version of the project proposal "Inventory and network of erosion measurement in the Mediterranean for an environmentally sound land management";

- meeting with ICONA, the Spanish host institution (Split, 22-23 June), to prepare a workshop in November and to define the 1989 programme;
 - national reports on rainfall erosion from 11 countries - in preparation.
8. Development of Mediterranean tourism harmonized with the environment
- expert meeting (Split, 22-23 February) for the preparation of draft guidelines for an environmental approach to the planning and management of tourism development in Mediterranean coastal zones - PAP-9/EM.2/1;
 - project outline for the preparation of guidelines for an environmental approach to the planning and management of tourism development in Mediterranean coastal zones (completed); terms of reference for the preparation of guidelines; documents for the guidelines commissioned from 6 consultants.
9. PAP/FAO cooperative project on environmentally sound management of Mediterranean Aquaculture
- meeting with the Italian authorities - proposal for hosting the project;
 - meetings with a specialist engaged by the Italian authorities to re-edit the text of the project proposal;
 - contacts with FAO with a view to harmonizing the project with FAO-MEDRAP.
10. Mediterranean network in renewable sources of energy
- preparation of documents for the training course;
 - meeting with the Spanish authorities (CIEMAT) discussing the preparation of the training course (Split, 11-12 May);
 - invitation to the countries to nominate candidates for the training course.
11. The role of Environmental Impact Assessment in the development of coastal zones
- preparation of 3 EIA on selected projects;
 - preparation of 2 site-specific EIAs (Cyprus);
 - mission of experts to Cyprus (24-29 May);
 - expert mission relative to EIA on stabilization ponds (Izmir);
 - preparative activities for MEDU-OCA/PAC-PAP/RAC evaluation meeting on EIA (Cyprus, October 1988).