

RECOMMENDATIONS

Remote Sensing Activities (RAC/ERS)

On the basis of the experience and competence of RAC/ERS, the results of the work carried out since October 1993, the needs and the goals of the Mediterranean Action Plan and the Barcelona Convention as well as the discussions and the deliberations of the First Meeting of the Focal Points to RAC/ERS, the following are the recommendations related to the activities of RAC/ERS for the biennium 1996-1997:

- to re-affirm the important contribution that remote-sensing techniques can provide to the implementation of scientific and socio-economic activities of MAP by adding a dynamic dimension to the observation, study, planning and control of the environmental conditions and changes in the Mediterranean basin;
- to consider the remote-sensing techniques as reference tools for better integrating information from the various MAP's activities;
- to thank the Italian Government and CTM for the financial and technical support given to RAC/ERS during 1994-1995;
- to ask the Italian Government to continue to give full support to RAC/ERS in the biennium 1996-1997;
- to stress the need for a close cooperation between the MAP's RACs and RAC/ERS by introducing, as appropriate, the remote-sensing techniques in the implementation of the approved programmes (e.g. management of protected areas, study of socio-economic trends, multidisciplinary studies of coastal areas, etc.) in order to expand and improve the coverage and the results of such programmes;
- to ask RAC/ERS to propose practical uses of the remote sensing techniques for the monitoring of appropriate marine pollution parameters including oil spills;
- to ask RAC/ERS to be fully involved in specific projects of the ongoing and future CAMP programmes (e.g. coastal erosion, land use, seismic risks, integrated planning, climatic changes, specially protected areas, etc.);

- to ask RAC/ERS to be involved and contribute, in cooperation with the appropriate international bodies in and outside the MAP, to large regional projects covering climate changes, biodiversity and natural risks which will contribute to the sustainable development of individual countries as well as the Mediterranean region as a whole;
- to ask RAC/ERS to continue its work on the preparation and updating of the Directory of Remote Sensing Centre in the Mediterranean; and
- to ask RAC/ERS to organize during the biennium 1996-1997 training courses for Mediterranean scientists on remote sensing techniques and its applications to the Mediterranean environment protection.