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MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN

Tenth Meeting of MED Unit and Regional Activity Centres (RAC) on MAP

Barcelona, 6 February 1995

REPORT

OF THE TENTH MEETING OF MED UNIT AND REGIONAL ACTIVITY CENTRES (RAC) ON MAP

Agenda item 1. Opening of the meeting

- 1. The meeting was opened at 9.30 a.m. on 6 February 1995 by Mr L. Chabason, Coordinator of MAP who welcomed the participants. The Meeting agreed that the following subjects would be treated:
- Report by the Coordinator
- Revision of MAP; and
- Preparation of the budget for 1996.
- 2. Representatives of the MED Unit and all RACs participated in the Meeting. The list of participants is attached as annex I to this report.
- Agenda item 2. Report by the Coordinator on the recent events (the Bureau Meeting, 30-31 January 1995, The IFREMER Workshop in Toulon, 2-3 February 1995 and the Meeting on Europe and the Mediterranean, 4-5 February 1995 Barcelona)
- 3. The Coordinator briefed the meeting on three recent events which in his opinion were important indicators of the general climate existing around the Mediterranean Action Plan. He referred in particular to the Meeting of the Bureau held in Paris on 30-31 January 1995, the Meeting held in Toulon "IFREMER Workshop on Environment and Technology in Relation with the Mediterranean Sea", Toulon, 2-3 February 1995 and the Meeting held in Barcelona "Colloque de la Fondation Vargas sur l'Europe et la Méditerranée, 4-5 February 1995.
- 4. In general terms he felt that the meetings had put in evidence a number of positive and negative aspects of MAP.
- 5. A positive aspect appeared to be the fact that in a moment when the Mediterranean countries were reluctant in creating new structures, MAP represented a well tested institutional framework. In addition, he considered that the fact that the Mediterranean countries had asked MAP to promote sustainable development was a very positive sign.
- 6. The negative aspects could be found in the fact that many were the criticisms on the scarce practical results after twenty years of operation of MAP which instead appeared as a rather formal institution with limited expertise in a number of new issues. He considered such criticisms especially relevant since were addressed by developing countries too.
- 7. With regards to the Bureau Meeting, in addition to the decision to prepare the budget only for one year, i.e. for 1996, some exchange of views took place and some ideas were brought forward for discussion: not to include a new post for sustainable development (which could instead be obtained by transforming a MED POL post) and not to fund any RAC/ERS activity. The Bureau also decided to postpone the meeting on the amendments to the LBS Protocol.
- 8. The coordinator stated that in the opinion of the secretariat the following should be the objectives of the Meeting of the Contracting Parties in June 1995: to adopt MAP II; to adopt amendments to the Convention, the Dumping Protocol and the SPA Protocol; to adopt a ministerial declaration; to adopt a budget for 1996 with a reasonable increase of 7/8 per cent; to adopt an Action Plan for sustainable development to be funded by outside donors (i.e. EU). The Coordinator added that in his opinion the amendments to LBS Protocol and the Protocol on Hazardous Wastes could be both adopted by the end of 1995 in a separate Plenipotentiary Meeting.

- 9. He concluded that between 1995 and 1996 work had to be carried out by the secretariat to make MED POL-Phase III more output-oriented, to re-evaluate the approach followed in the CAMPs and to define an integrated strategy in the framework of MAP on the protection of the littoral zone. Finally he believed that an effort should be made to operate possible changes in the structure of the MAP secretariat and, as appropriate, in the structure of the RACs.
- 10. A lengthy discussion followed the presentation of the Coordinator. The view was expressed that in the past years the suggestions of the Contracting Parties to operate more structural changes in MAP had not been properly followed by the secretariat and that this fact had created a somehow negative atmosphere in the relation with the Contracting Parties who, as a result, did not operate increases in the budget. More substantial funds were in any case not to be expected and MAP had to present attractive programmes which could be funded by outside donors. The role and the status of the RACs had to be reviewed and revised as appropriate and made uniform for all RACs. In some cases, for the sake of efficiency, the relations between the RACs and the Coordinating Unit had to be clarified too. The over-all approach followed until now in the implementation of the CAMPs should be reconsidered in view of the fact that the large donors were already carrying out similar work in the Mediterranean and because of the lack of integration between the various MAP activities in each CAMP and the scarcity of practical and integrated outputs. For a better *in situ* coordination, each CAMP could have a local coordinator informed in real time of all activities carried out by other actors than MAP who could therefore assist the implementation of the CAMP activities.

Agenda item 3. Revision of MAP

- 11. The meeting examined the existing proposal for MAP II prepared by the secretariat in the light of the many comments received.
- 12. The participants agreed with a new MAP II structure divided in three main chapters as it appears in annex II to this report.
- 13. It was agreed that the document describing MAP II should be of the same length of the previous version and that the various chapters should be prepared by MEDU and the relevant RACs (see annex II) by 17 February in view of the fact that the document should be submitted in English and French to the Joint Committees Meeting to be held in April 1995.

Agenda item 4. Preparation of the budget for 1996

- 14. The Coordinator recalled the decisions of the Bureau in relation to the preparation of the budget for 1996.
- 15. In particular, he reiterated that the Bureau had asked the secretariat to prepare the budget only for 1996. The budget should be divided in two parts: the first part, which should present a ceiling identical to the approved budget for 1995, should cover the ongoing activities; the second part, to be prepared on the basis of the new priorities of MAP II, should seek funds from the Trust Fund and from outside donors such as the E.U.
- 16. The Coordinator drew the attention to the risk of presenting an over-all budget of the ongoing activities at the same level of 1995 but with the unavoidable increases in personnel and running costs. He therefore felt that some alternatives should be found in order not to have a negative balance in particular between activities and personnel costs. He stressed that the Coordinating Unit was ready to propose changes in the structure of the Unit itself and he urged the RACs to operate the same effort as appropriate.

17. With reference to the second part of the budget, it was agreed that on the basis of the discussions, each RAC had to submit proposals for new activities in the framework of sustainable development before the 17 February, to be presented to the Joint Committees Meeting in April 1995.

Agenda item 5. Closure of the Meeting

18. The Coordinator thanked the particiannts for the constructive spirit and the frank exchanges of views shown during the meeting. The Meeting was closed at 21,00 hours of 6 February 1995.

ANNEX I

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

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ANNEX II

ACTION PLAN FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT OF MARINE AND COASTAL ZONE OF THE MEDITERRANEAN

	MEDU		Preamble				
	MEDU		General Principles				
		ı	Sustainable Development of the Mediterranean Basin				
	BP/RAC		1.	Integration of Environment and Development			
				1.1.	Enviror	nmental aspects of economic activities	
				1.2.	Enviror	nmental aspects of urban development	
				1.3.	Policy	and management of resources	
				1.4.	integra	ted Coastal Areas Management (ICAM)	
	SPA/RAC HIST. SITES		2.	Conservation of Nature, Landscape and Sites			
				 2.1. Collection of data and assessment of the present state 2.2. Legislation 2.3. Planning and management 2.4. Technical cooperation, training and transfer of know-how (capacity building) 			
	MEDPOL/ REMPEC		3.	Assessment, Prevention and Control of Pollution			
				3.1. 3.2.	•		
					3.2.1. 3.2.2.	Prevention and control of the pollution of the marine environment from land-based activities Prevention of and response to the pollution of the marine environment from sea-based activities	
				3.3.	Suppor	ting measures	
	MEDU		4.	Information and public participation			
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	MEDU	11	-	Framework utional and Financial Arrangements			
	MEDU	111					
	MEDU		1.	Institutional arrangements			
	MEDU		2.	Financial arrangements			