

Introduction

1. In consultation with the President and members of the Bureau, the meeting will be held in Athens, at the premises of the Coordinating Unit (48, Vassileos Konstantinou Avenue, 2nd floor) on 29 and 30 April 1999.
2. The following annotations to the provisional agenda for the meeting were prepared by the Secretariat to assist the meeting in its deliberations.

Agenda item 1: Opening of the meeting

3. The meeting will be opened at 09.30 hrs on Thursday, 29 April 1999, by the President of the Bureau. It is envisaged that the Vice-President from Greece, host country of the Seat of the Mediterranean Action Plan, and the MAP Coordinator will make opening statements.
4. It is expected that the Bureau will tackle all items inscribed in the Provisional Agenda during its two day meeting. It is envisaged to close the meeting of the Bureau at 13.00 hrs on Friday, 30 April 1999. The report of the meeting will be prepared by the Rapporteur in collaboration with the Secretariat and sent to all members for their comments, before its finalization and distribution.

Agenda item 2: Adoption of the Provisional Agenda and organisation of work

5. The Provisional Agenda prepared by the Secretariat, in consultation with the President and members of the Bureau, was distributed as document UNEP/BUR/54/1 and annotated in the present document.

The meeting will review and adopt the proposed Provisional Agenda. Simultaneous English-French interpretation will be available for all sessions.

Agenda item 3: Progress Report by the Coordinator on activities carried out since the last meeting of the Bureau, including draft recommendations on specific activities (November 1998 - April 1999)

6. The Coordinator of MAP will give a general introduction of document UNEP/BUR/54/3 "Progress Report by the Coordinator on activities carried out since the last meeting of the Bureau, including draft recommendations on specific activities (November 1998 - April 1999)".

The meeting is expected to comment on and take note of the progress report on the implementation of the activities carried out during this period and review and approve the draft recommendations proposed by the Secretariat.

Agenda item 4: Programme and budget for the biennium 2000-2001

7. The Bureau will have before it the relevant section of the Secretariat document UNEP/BUR/54/3, and will be requested to review the Secretariat proposal and take the necessary action thereon.

Agenda item 5: MAP Information Strategy

8. The Bureau will have before it document UNEP/BUR/54/4 concerning "MAP Information Strategy". The Secretariat will present the set of recommendations proposed by the meeting of the Working Group on MAP Information Strategy (Athens, 1-2 April 1999).
9. The Bureau is requested to review these recommendations and take the necessary action thereon.

Agenda item 6: Process of selection of members in the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD)

10. In accordance with the terms of reference of the MCSD, the duration of membership of the 36 members of the Commission shall be as follows:
 - a. all Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention shall be permanent members of the Commission (21);
 - b. representatives from each of the three categories (local authorities, socio-economic actors and non-governmental organizations), shall be selected for a duration of two years by the meeting of the contracting Parties (15).

The forthcoming Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties (Malta, 27-30 October 1999) will have to nominate the 15 members of the Commission, other than those representing the Contracting Parties.

11. The Bureau may wish to exchange views on the issue of nomination of the 15 members of the Commission with a view to advising the meeting of the Contracting Parties on this issue.

Agenda item 7: Date and place of the next meeting of the Bureau

12. The meeting will decide on the date and place of the next meeting of the Bureau.

Agenda item 8: Any other business

13. The Bureau will consider any other issues which might be raised during the meeting.

Agenda item 9: Adoption of the report of the meeting

14. A draft report of the meeting will be sent to all members in English and French for their comments before its finalization and distribution.

Agenda item 10: Closure of the meeting

15. The meeting is expected to be closed by the President at 13.00 hrs on Friday, 30 April 1999.

Working Sessions: 09.30 - 12.30 hrs
14.30 - 18.00 hrs

Coffee Breaks: 11.00 hrs
16.00 hrs