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MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN

Meeting of the Bureau of the Contracting Parties to the
Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment
and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean and its Protocols

Madrid, Spain, 18-19 September 2008

PROGRESS REPORT BY THE SECRETARIAT ON ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT SINCE THE LAST MEETING OF THE CONTRACTING PARTIES (Almeria, January 2008)

(January 2008 – June 2008)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PART A COORDINATING UNIT

1. Legal component
 - 1.1 *Ratification and entry into force of MAP legal instruments*
 - 1.1.1 *Status of ratification and entry into force*
 - 1.1.2 *Follow up – Entry into force of the LBS Protocol*
 - 1.2 *Promoting implementation and compliance*
 - 1.2.1 *Compliance mechanisms and procedures*
 - 1.2.2 *Strengthening the MAP/Barcelona Convention reporting system*
 - 1.2.3 *Assistance to countries in preparing the implementation reports for 2006-2007 biennium*
2. Institutional arrangements and coordination
 - 2.1 *Implementation of the Governance paper*
 - 2.2 *Organization of the 16th meeting of the Contracting Parties*
 - 2.3 *Organization of INFO/RAC, Blue Plan and PAP/RAC joint focal points meeting*
 - 2.4 *Criteria for the selection of MCSD members from Civil Society*
 - 2.5 *Auditing and Financial Management*
3. Application of the Ecosystem Approach
4. Cooperation and Partnership
 - 4.1 *Cooperation with UN Agencies, EU, Regional initiatives*
 - 4.2 *Cooperation with NGOs, MAP/Partners*
 - 4.2.1 *MAP/Civil society cooperation assessment*
 - 4.2.2 *MAP/NGO Activities*
5. Mediterranean Commission for Sustainable Development
 - 5.1 *NSSD Implementation*
 - 5.2 *Synergy and Cooperation*
 - 5.3 *MCSD Steering Committee*
6. Information and Communication
7. Financial, personnel and administrative matters
 - 7.1 *Financial matters*
 - 7.1.1 *Remittance of contributions*
 - 7.1.2 *Programme Budget of MAP*
 - 7.2 *Personnel matters*
 - 7.3 *Administrative matters*

PART B COMPONENTS

1. Land-based Pollution (MED POL)
2. Sustainable Production and Consumption (Cleaner Production Regional Activity Center - (CP/RAC))
 - 2.1 *Sustainable Production and Consumption*
 - 2.2 *Greco Initiative*
 - 2.3 *Rational Management of Chemicals*
 - 2.4 *Strategy and Communication*
3. Sea-based Pollution (REMPEC)
4. Conservation of Biodiversity (Regional Activity Center for Specially Protected Areas (SPA/RAC))
5. Sustainable Management of Coastal Zones (Priority Actions Programme Regional Activity Center (PAP/RAC))
 - 5.1 *Sustainable Management of Coastal Zones*
 - 5.2 *Integrating Environment and Development*
6. Environment and Development (Blue Plan)
 - 6.1 *Mediterranean Information System on the Environment and Sustainable Development (MISESD)*
 - 6.2 *Report on the Environment and Sustainable Development in the Mediterranean (RESO), communication and dissemination*
 - 6.3 *Thematic activities*
 - 6.3.1 *Sustainable agricultural and rural development*
 - 6.3.2 *Tourism*
 - 6.3.3 *Urban mobility*
 - 6.3.4 *Impact of transport in the Mediterranean*
7. INFO/RAC

Annexes

- Annex I: Status of signatures and ratifications of the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean and its Protocols as at 25 April 2008
- Annex II: Draft Terms of Reference of the Executive Coordination Panel
- Annex III: Draft Selection criteria and method of nomination of candidates representing new categories of MCSD members
- Annex IV: Draft Terms of Reference – Performance and financial management audit of MAP and its components
- Annex V: Trust Fund for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea Against Pollution (ME), Status of Contributions as at 30 June 2008

Part A COORDINATING UNIT

1. Legal component

1.1 Ratification and Entry into force of MAP legal instruments

Main Goal : *Making the legal framework of the Mediterranean Action Plan effective by further developing it and establishing appropriate procedures and mechanisms to promote and facilitate its efficient implementation by the Contracting Parties in full compliance with the obligations under the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols*

Objective 1	<i>To achieve a widespread ratification and entry into force of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols.</i>
Expected outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ratification related difficulties identified and analysed</i> • <i>Draft initiative with actions to speed up ratification prepared under the guidance of the Bureau</i> • <i>Legal/technical assistance provided to Contracting Parties upon request</i>
MAP Components and/or other partners involved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Bureau of the Contracting Parties</i> • <i>Secretariat</i> • <i>MED POL, REMPEC, SPA/RAC, PAP/RAC</i>
Indicators/ achievements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Draft initiative with actions to speed up ratification prepared under the guidance of the Bureau is submitted to the 16th meeting of the Contracting Parties for endorsement</i> • <i>Relevant actions are taken by the Contracting Parties</i>
Main achievements	
<p>1.1.1 <u>Status of ratification and entry into force</u></p> <p>1. According to the latest updates on the status of ratification recently received by Spain in its capacity as Depository state for the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols, following a request by the Secretariat, the situation is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 19 Contracting Parties have accepted the amendments to the 1995 Convention; • 14 Contracting Parties have accepted the amendments to the 1995 Dumping Protocol; • 11 Contracting Parties have ratified the new 2002 Prevention and Emergency Protocol; • 16 Contracting Parties have accepted the 1996 amendments to the 1996 LBS Protocol; • 16 Contracting Parties have ratified the 1995 SPA and Biodiversity Protocol¹; • 6 Contracting Parties have ratified the 1996 Hazardous Waste Protocol; • 4 Contracting Parties have ratified the 1994 Offshore Protocol; • No notification has as yet been received of ratification of the new ICZM protocol. <p>2. Clear progress has been made on the entry into force of some legal instruments compared with the situation last year, most significantly with the entry into force of the amendments to the LBS protocol on 11 May 2008 once Syria had deposited the last instrument of ratification, and the entry into force of the Hazardous Waste protocol on 18 December 2007 following ratification by Montenegro.</p>	

¹ Pending notification by the Depository on ratification by Algeria

3. Almost 12 years after the adoption of the amendments to the LBS protocol this entry into force represents a major achievement for MAP, since the requirement to take measures to combat and eliminate pollution within fixed timeframes will become legally binding after their adoption by the 16th meeting of the Contracting Parties.

4. Based on the analysis of difficulties encountered during ratification and implementation of MAP legal instruments, which is expected to be provided in the 2006-2007 national reports on their implementation, it is foreseen that the Secretariat in consultation with the Bureau of the Contracting Parties will prepare a draft initiative for consideration and possible approval by the Bureau in order to encourage and facilitate the process for the entry into force of the revised and new MAP legal instruments (the Convention and its seven related Protocols) for all Contracting Parties.

5. Without prejudice to the aforementioned forthcoming analysis and draft initiative, which are expected to be submitted to the Bureau in 2009, the Secretariat would like to draw the Bureau's attention to the fact that three Contracting Parties, namely Bosnia Herzegovina, Lebanon and Libya, have not ratified any of the new and revised MAP legal instruments. Although this delay is mainly due to the long and difficult administrative procedures followed by these countries when ratifying instruments of international law, the Secretariat is of the opinion that the countries in question should and could make a more concerted effort.

6. A report on the measures adopted to promote ratification of the ICZM protocol is provided in the chapter on PAP/RAC activities.

7. The updated status of ratification as of 15 April 2008 is presented in Annex 1 to this report. This table has also been published on the MAP website.

1.1.2 Follow up- Entry into force of the LBS Protocol

8. Following the entry into force of the amendments to the LBS protocol, the Secretariat is required to draft and propose the legally binding programmes and measures and the timetables for their implementation as stipulated by Article 15 of the amended LBS protocol.

9. Article 15 of the amended LBS protocol provides for clear procedures for the adoption of such legally binding programmes, measures and timeframes, one of which is their adoption by the MED POL coordinators meeting within one year of entry into force of the amendments to the LBS.

10. *“Regional action plans and programmes as referred to in paragraph 1 shall be formulated by the Organization and be considered and approved by the relevant technical body of the Contracting Parties within one year at the latest of the entry into force of the amendments to this protocol. Such regional action plans and programmes shall be put on the agenda for the subsequent meeting of the parties for adoption. The same procedure shall be followed for any additional action plans and programmes”.*

11. In order to comply with the above requirement the relevant technical body of the Contracting Parties i.e. the meeting of MED POL coordinators, should consider and approve the new legally binding programme and measures and their timetables before 11 May 2009 (the amendments entered into force on 11 May 2008). As such, the forthcoming MED POL coordinators' meeting should definitely be held before 11 May 2009 in order to approve the proposed programmes and measures and submit them for consideration and approval by the MAP focal points meetings and then by the 16th meeting of the Contracting Parties in 2009.

12. All the preparatory work carried out over the years by MAP within the framework of the MED POL programme confirms that the Contracting Parties are prepared and ready to commit themselves. The process of developing the legally binding programmes and measures as well as their respective timeframes is well advanced and the MED POL will indeed be in a position to have the new proposed and legally binding programmes and measures ready by 11 May 2009 for the next MED POL Focal Points Meeting. For the Bureau's information, this process was already got underway during the last biennium and the next step will be the meeting of the working group to be held in October 2008.

Constraints and Lessons learned

13. The MAP legal instruments adopted in 1976, 1982 and 1986 are in force for all Contracting Parties with the exception of Montenegro, for which the amended 1995 Convention, the 1996 amended LBS protocol, the 1995 SPA and Biodiversity Protocol, the 2002 Prevention and Emergency Protocol and the 1996 Hazardous Waste Protocol are in force.

14. It is imperative that the new and revised MAP legal instruments should enter into force for all Contracting Parties (22) with an eye to:

- increasing the credibility of MAP and the Barcelona Convention at national and regional level and within other regional initiatives and programmes operating in the Mediterranean;
- enhancing and strengthening bilateral, sub- regional and regional cooperation amongst the Contracting Parties;
- rendering the work of the Compliance Committee effective and meaningful. The Committee will only be in a position to address non compliance situations for those Contracting parties which have ratified those new and revised legal instruments for which they are in force.

15. The entry into force of the Hazardous Waste Protocol is also an important achievement, which needs to be enhanced through further ratification by other Contracting parties. It also merits more focused action by the Secretariat and MED POL. In this respect, particular attention should be paid to cooperation with the Secretariat of the Basel Convention through signing an enhanced MoU covering not only technical implementation aspects but also horizontal issues related to harmonised reporting and synergy for the implementation of compliance mechanisms and procedures.

16. It is crucial that the ICZM protocol should enter into force as soon as possible in order to issue a strong signal to the region that the Mediterranean governments are genuinely and firmly committed to achieving the sustainable development of coastal zones and halting their rapid degradation.

Draft Recommendations

- 1. The Bureau is invited to consider the observations made by the Secretariat on the above issues and provide its advice as it sees fit.**
- 2. The Bureau may deem it useful to urge the Contracting Parties to speed up the ratification process for all MAP legal instruments and request that they take all necessary action towards ratifying the new ICZM protocol with a view to having it in force by the next Contracting Parties meeting.**
- 3. The Bureau may also deem it useful to request that the Secretariat approach those Contracting Parties which have not yet accepted the 1995 amendments to the Convention and provide them with any assistance and support to such end.**

1.2 Promoting Implementation and Compliance

Objective 2	<i>To promote implementation and compliance with the obligations under the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols and to assess the effectiveness of measures taken for their implementation.</i>
Expected outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Programme of work of the Compliance Committee adopted</i> • <i>Draft rules and Procedures for the Compliance Committee prepared</i> • <i>Non compliance situation assessed and facilitated</i> • <i>Reporting Format on Effectiveness and liability compensation Guidelines and ICZM protocol implementation drafted</i> • <i>Legal/ technical/financial assistance provided to Contracting Parties to prepare their reports on implementation</i> • <i>Reporting databases completed and enriched</i> • <i>National reports analysed by the Secretariat and concerned RACs</i> • <i>Regional assessment report on Implementation drafted and communicated</i>
MAP Components and/or other partners involved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Compliance Committee</i> • <i>Secretariat</i> • <i>MED POL, REMPEC, SPA/RAC, PAP/RAC,</i> • <i>Blue Plan, INFO/RAC</i>
Indicators/ achievements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Compliance Committee fully operational</i> • <i>Functions of Compliance Committee fully implemented</i> • <i>Report of Compliance committee submitted to the 16 Contracting Parties meeting</i> • <i>Additional elements of MAP reporting format submitted to the 16th Contracting Parties meeting</i> • <i>All Contracting Parties submit their report on Implementation to its 16th meeting</i> • <i>Reporting burden facilitated and decreased for the Contracting Parties</i> • <i>Access to reporting data base increased</i> • <i>Regional assessment report on implementation submitted to the 16th meeting of the Contracting Parties</i> • <i>Main implementation related achievements communicated to the public</i> • <i>MAP visibility increased</i>
Up to date results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Compliance Committee fully operational since July 2008</i> • <i>Assistance to countries in process of delivery</i>

Main achievements

1.2.1 Compliance mechanisms and procedures

17. Following the adoption of Decision IG 15/2 on Compliance procedures and mechanisms, the Secretariat took all necessary measures to convene the first Compliance Committee meeting and facilitate its work in carrying out all the tasks entrusted to the Committee by the 15th Contracting Parties meeting. The first Compliance Committee meeting was held on 3-4 July 2008 and was highly successful. It also demonstrated the willingness of all Committee members to work together in a constructive and cooperative spirit. All members and alternate members were invited to attend the meeting. The draft report of the meeting is presented as document UNEP (DEPI) MED/Compliance Committee 1/5.

18. Lebanon and Algeria were contacted by the Secretariat to nominate their candidates to sit as alternate members in the Compliance committee for endorsement by the Bureau. No reaction has been forthcoming from Lebanon to date, whilst Algeria has nominated Mr. Abdelaâli Beghoura.

19. The Draft Rules of Procedures for Compliance Committee meetings were agreed by the committee at its first meeting and work. The purpose of the Committee's rules of procedure is to provide a set of rules to govern its meetings. In developing these rules, the Committee took a number of considerations into account in order to accommodate its size, specific nature and functions as well as the existence of the rules of procedure for Meeting and Conferences of the Contracting Parties to the Convention and of some rules for the proceedings of the meetings of the Committee that are provided by the procedures and mechanisms on compliance under the Convention and its Protocols.

20. The programme of work for 2008-2009 was adopted by the Committee, which agreed to undertake a number of activities in line with Committee functions such as: a) consideration of submissions from individual Parties; b) review of general issues of compliance by Parties with the reporting requirements of the Convention and its Protocols, c) development of Rules and Procedures for the Compliance Committee as well as its *modus operandi*; d) establishment of a special page on the MAP website on the Compliance mechanisms and procedures; e) drawing up of a leaflet on Compliance Mechanisms and Procedures under the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols.

21. On the basis of the experience acquired during the first meeting of the Compliance Committee, a set of conclusions was reached on a number of issues. It was agreed that these new conclusions should be discussed by the Bureau in order to provide appropriate advice, which would subsequently be communicated to the Compliance Committee. Some of the conclusions of the first Compliance committee are as follows:

1. *Any person other than the elected members and alternate members who is designated by a Contracting Party to attend the meetings of the Committee shall be entitled to participate actively in the meeting discussions but will not enjoy the attributes of the members and/or alternate members who are replacing members.*
2. *All alternate members shall be invited to attend the Committee meetings and participate in its proceedings without the right to vote, unless they are serving as members.*
3. *The Committee will need to develop criteria to enable it to identify those specific situations when the participation of the Party concerned is required for the elaboration of Committee findings, decisions and recommendations.*
4. *The Committee will need to develop criteria to enable it to take any decision related to participation in Committee meetings by other Contracting parties not represented in the Committee as well as observers.*
5. *The Committee proposed adding Arabic as its third working language.*

Main achievements

22. The draft rules of procedures for the Committee provide for a number of responsibilities for the Bureau as regards the work of the Committee: a) in case of replacement of a member or alternate member endorsement shall be provided by the Bureau; b) any amendments to these rules of procedures should be adopted by the Bureau given that the Contracting Parties only meet every two years.

1.2.2 Strengthening the MAP/Barcelona Convention reporting system

23. In order to prepare the ground for the implementation of decision IG 17/3 on Reporting, in close cooperation with INFO/RAC, other RACs and MED POL, the Secretariat organized a joint planning and coordination meeting on 5-6 May 2008 at INFO/RAC's premises in Rome. The conclusions and recommendations of the above meeting were endorsed by the second meeting of the ECP (UNEP/DEPI/MED ECP.2/4). The Rome meeting worked out and agreed upon:

1. *A roadmap for developing and making operational the on-line Barcelona Convention/MAP Reporting System by the end of 2008.*
2. *Ways and means to promote the Assessment Reports on Implementation of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols, through the publication of the 2002-2003 and 2004-2005 reports on the MAP web site under a section entitled "Implementation Reporting", to be established as soon as possible.*
3. *Provisions for the participation of MAP Components in Compliance Mechanisms and Procedures and the work of the Compliance Committee as well as expected contributions.*
4. *A roadmap for the joint development of Effectiveness Indicators using an integrated approach and various elements of the IMAGINE method. Blue Plan will facilitate the process.*

1.2.3 Assistance to countries in preparing the Implementation reports for 2006-2007 biennium

24. During the period under review the Secretariat is in the process of providing financial and technical assistance to eligible Contracting Parties for the preparation of their 2006-2007 reports on measures taken to implement the Convention and its Protocols as well as the decisions of the meetings of the Contracting Parties.

Constraints and lessons learned

Compliance

25. Among the points requiring further clarification and discussion by the Bureau is the question of Committee membership and the status of participants in the Committee meetings. The Contracting Parties should be made aware that the members and alternate members of the Compliance Committee are nominally elected on the basis of their own capacities. As such, the Contracting Parties should not be encouraged to nominate other persons than the elected members or alternate members of the Committee to attend committee meetings.

26. Another issue raised was that of the required quorum of seven members, which might give rise to difficulties in the future for convening Committee meetings. One solution might be to also invite all alternate members to attend Committee meetings in order to avoid any last minute absence that would affect the quorum. Alternate members should be counted on a group basis and not individually for each member. Otherwise, if both the member and their alternate member were to be absent, the meeting of the Committee could not take place. In this context, it is very important that Lebanon nominates its candidate to sit in the Compliance Committee. If not a replacement procedure may be should be considered by the Bureau to start as soon as possible.

27. The Secretariat believes that the Committee should use two working languages (English and French) otherwise the process would become very difficult, complicated, and technically and financially untenable.

Submission of national reports on Implementation

28. Difficulties may arise with regard to the deadline for submission of the 2006-2007 reports on measures taken to implement the Convention and its Protocols as well as the decisions of the meetings of the Contracting Parties ("Implementation reports"). Due to some delay in the disbursement of the respective funds by the Italian government to INFO/RAC and consequently also by the Secretariat, it was impossible to have the on-line MAP reporting system operational well in advance so that the Contracting Parties could meet the on-line submission deadline in November 2008. It would, therefore, be reasonable to justify a slight two-month extension of the submission deadline with a view to enabling Contracting parties to make use of the online MAP reporting system, which according to INFO/RAC and the decision of the ECP, will be available in November/December 2008.

Design of the on-line MAP Reporting system

29. Technical discussions among all MAP components as well as those at ECP level on the design of the on-line MAP reporting system have led to the conclusion that it will be necessary to create a Mediterranean MAP system, which will be fully compatible with other reporting information systems operating in the region under various international or regional organizations.

Draft Recommendations

- 1. The Bureau is invited to consider the observations made by the Secretariat, the achievements, lessons learned and any possible constraints regarding the effectiveness of the work of the Compliance Committee and provide any advice it may deem useful.***
- 2. The Bureau is invited to endorse Mr. Abdelaâli Beghoura, the candidate nominated by Algeria to sit on the Compliance Committee as an alternate member.***
- 3. The Bureau may deem it useful to urge the Contracting Parties to submit their national reports according to the format agreed by the 15th meeting of the Contracting Parties.***
- 4. The Bureau calls upon INFO/RAC to proceed on time and ensure that MAP's new on-line reporting system is operational by the agreed deadline of December 2008.***
- 5. The Bureau may also deem it useful to accept the Secretariat's proposal to provide Contracting parties with the possibility of submitting their reports on line by January 2009 at the latest.***

2. Institutional Arrangements and Coordination

Goal: *To implement the biennial Programme of Work as adopted by the Meeting of the Contracting Parties in an efficient and cost effective manner, through the effective coordination and integration of the activities of the Secretariat, MED POL and the RACs.*

Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>To ensure the efficient and effective functioning of the Meeting of the Contracting Parties;</i> • <i>To improve coordination between the RACs</i> • <i>To ensure the smooth, efficient and cost effective implementation of the Programme of Work by the Secretariat and RACs</i> • <i>To ensure the long term planning and preparation of a realistic and sustainable program of work for the 2010-2011 biennium.</i>
Expected outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Draft decisions and programme of work prepared and reviewed</i> • <i>Guidance to the Secretariat and RACs provided</i> • <i>Joint planning of activities achieved</i> • <i>Status of implementation of the programme of work and decisions of the Contracting Parties monitored and moved forward</i> • <i>Active attendance of MAP components at CAMP Final Conferences</i>
MAP Components and/or other partners involved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Secretariat</i> • <i>RACs including MED POL</i>
Indicators/ achievements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Meetings are efficiently prepared</i> • <i>All agenda items are effectively considered</i> • <i>Integration between MAP components improved</i> • <i>Reports of ECP meetings submitted to the Bureau meetings</i> • <i>CAMP final conferences are successfully concluded and the participation of the concerned MAP components ensured</i>
Up to date results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Reports of two ECP meetings submitted to the Bureau</i> • <i>CAMP Cyprus Final Conference was a success</i> • <i>Integrated approach is fully considered in developing the 5- year draft working programme of MAP</i>
<p>Main achievements</p> <p>2.1 Implementation of the Governance paper</p> <p>30. The Secretariat has undertaken a number of actions to implement the Governance paper, particularly its institutional aspects.</p> <p>31. The ECP was institutionalised by holding its first meetings and establishing a first draft of its ToRs, which are provided in Annex II to this report for consideration and endorsement by the Bureau. The draft ToRs define the mandate, composition, tasks and <i>modus operandi</i> of the ECP. In drawing up its draft ToRs, the ECP was inspired by the basic legal documents of MAP, various decisions of the meetings of the Contracting parties as well as many elements described in the Governance paper.</p>	

32. Two meetings of the ECP were held in February and May 2008. The agenda of both meetings were set in consultation with the RACs, including MED POL. The reports of these meetings are presented to the Bureau as documents UNEP/DEPI/MED/ECP.1/5 and UNEP/DEPI/MED/ECP.2/5 for information purposes.

33. A number of activities are being conducted by the Coordinating Unit and other RACs, including MED POL, under the guidance of ECP, such as:

- Preparation of a template Host Country Agreement for the RACs
- Preparation of draft mandates for the RACs, including MED POL
- Preparation of a 5- year strategic programme of work
- Organization of work for the preparation of the SoE and development report
- Organization of work for the preparation of the Mediterranean Information system on the environment and development and the on-line MAP reporting system
- Monitoring the implementation of the programme of work and decisions adopted by the 15th meeting of the Contracting Parties

2.2 Organization of the 16th meeting of the Contracting Parties

34. Following the lessons learned from the 15th meeting of the Contracting Parties (January 2008, Almeria, Spain) the ECP has agreed on a number of suggestions and proposals for consideration by the Bureau meeting with a view to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of the meetings of the Contracting parties.

a) the selection of ministerial topics should be handled carefully, since this is the only forum to bring all of the region's environmental ministers together. As such, the ministerial topics may be limited in number and extend beyond the scope of application of the Convention and its Protocols or MAP itself.

b) the ministerial segment may be complimented by round tables to encourage and allow for more discussion among ministers and heads of delegation. Such round tables may address sub-issues related to the main ministerial topic(s) and facilitated by Ministers or heads of delegation assisted by the Coordinator/deputy Coordinator, RAC directors and/or eminent representatives of MAP partners.

c) the draft decisions already agreed by the meeting of the MAP focal points may be adopted en bloc, thus allowing the possibility for the meeting to be shortened by half or one day.

d) greater effort should be put into ensuring broader coverage of the meeting of the Contracting parties by the Mediterranean media.

35. In the course of preparations for the 16th meeting of the Contracting Parties, the MAP Coordinator paid a visit to Morocco to discuss the details of Host Country Agreement (HCA) and other arrangements. H.E the Minister for the Environment and Water, Mr. Abdelkbir Zahoud, expressed his whole-hearted support for the 16th meeting of the Contracting Parties. Possible dates have been identified as 24-26 or 24-27 November, 2009. Preliminary discussions were held about the possibility of taking de-pollution of the Mediterranean as an overall theme for next year's 16th Contracting Parties meeting, given recent developments within MAP and the region. Some other topics could be also considered such as climate change adaptation and or Biodiversity 2010 target achievement in the Mediterranean. This issue is still under ECP consideration. However any advise of and exchange of views among Bureau members on possible ministerial topics will be really helpful to the Secretariat.

2.3 Organization of INFO/RAC, Blue Plan and PAP/RAC joint focal points meeting

36. ECP is of the opinion that due to the horizontal nature of the issues dealt with by Blue Plan and INFO/RAC, it might be more effective to address the respective programmes of work only at the level of MAP Focal Point Meetings. In this respect, the role of the Focal Points for INFO/ RAC and Blue Plan could be entrusted to the MAP Focal Points. There is therefore no need to hold separate meetings of Blue Plan and INFO/RAC focal points, whilst PAP/RAC will organize its separate Focal Points Meeting.

2.4 Criteria for the selection of MCSD members from Civil Society

37. In view of the implementation of the Governance paper, the Secretariat has prepared draft criteria and procedures for the selection of MCSD members representing the academic sector & scientific community, regional IGOs and eminent experts. The draft was presented for comments to the first ECP meeting. The draft is presented as Annex III to this report.

2.5 Auditing and Financial Management

38. The terms of reference for Auditing and Financial Management, prepared by the Secretariat in close consultation with the RACs, are attached as Annex IV to this report. The secretariat has contacted IOIS, a specialized body of UNON on auditing, financial management and evaluation/monitoring to undertake and carry out this activity. All RAC directors and Officials of the Secretariat were interviewed by the team of auditors that visited the Secretariat in May 2008. The final report is expected to be submitted to the Secretariat by the end of this year and will immediately be forwarded to the second Bureau meeting in this biennium. The main outputs expected from this exercise are to propose the efficient and cost-effective use of available human and financial resources and to strengthen the effectiveness of overall programme implementation, as well as to determine whether it would be justified for a request to be made at the next meeting of the Contracting Parties for an increase in the contributions to the Mediterranean Trust Fund.

Constraints and Lessons learned

Institutional aspects

39. In view of Secretariat and ECP observations on the organization of meetings of the Contracting Parties and transfer of the functions of Blue Plan and INFO/RAC focal points to MAP focal points, the Bureau may wish to be guided by the following observations when considering these issues with a view to their implementation during this biennium.

- the Bureau of the Contracting Parties is the body to which the 9th Meeting of the Contracting Parties held in Barcelona, 1995, delegated a number of competencies and powers that are described in its Terms of Reference; the Contracting Parties have also mandated the Bureau with a number of functions and responsibilities in accordance with Rules and procedures for meetings and conferences of the Contracting Parties. Copies of the Terms of Reference of the Bureau of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols, and of the Rules and procedures for meetings and conferences of the Contracting Parties are attached to this report for information purposes;
- the meetings of the Contracting Parties may also delegate to and empower the Bureau to take on a number of specific functions or take decisions that are valid only for the specific biennium or inter-session period between two consecutive Contracting Parties meetings;
- the meeting of MAP focal points may also be given the authority to decide on a number of technical issues subject to formal validation and adoption of these decisions by the meetings of the Contracting Parties.

40. In view of the above explanations, the Bureau may find it difficult to take decisions that seem not to be in line with the respective decisions of the meetings of the Contracting Parties related to the ToRs of the MAP system focal points. However, no budgetary allocations from the MTF are approved by the Contracting Parties for the organization of Blue Plan focal points meetings. As such, upon consultation through the Secretariat, the Bureau along with the MAP focal points and the respective focal points of the two RACs in question may embark on a discussion and prepare such a decision if it considers it worthwhile in terms of increasing the effectiveness of the MAP system as a whole for the consideration of forthcoming Bureau, MAP and 16th Contracting Parties meetings. Meanwhile during this Biennium, the joint focal points meeting of INFO/RAC, Blue Plan and PAP/RAC would be held in 2009 according to the usual practice, provided that no additional funds from the MTF will be allocated for this purpose.

Draft Recommendations

1. **Bureau members are invited to exchange views on the proposed Terms of Reference for the ECP and endorse them as they deem fit. They are also invited to take note of the ToR for the Financial and Management Audit and approve the Criteria and Procedures proposed by the Secretariat for the Selection of MCSD members representing academic sector and scientific community, regional IGOs and eminent experts.**
2. **Bureau members are also invited to consider the findings, constraints and suggestions from the Secretariat regarding the organization of the 16th meeting of the Contracting Parties and to advise the Secretariat as they feel fit.**
3. **Bureau members are also invited to address the ECP's proposal on the possibility of merging the functions of the Blue Plan and INFO/ RAC focal points with those of the MAP focal points, and abolishing the convening of separate meetings for these RAC focal points by directly transferring their competencies and functions to the MAP focal points' meeting. The Bureau is invited to request the Secretariat to launch a consultation process with MAP and the concerned RAC focal points for this purpose.**

3. Application of the Ecosystem Approach

Goal: *The definition of the ecological status of the Mediterranean*

Objective	To implement the roadmap for the application of the ecosystem approach by the MAP system as a whole
Expected outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Definition of areas and pilot projects</i> • <i>Derivation of ecological and operational objectives with indicators and target levels</i> • <i>Reports on each area</i>
MAP Components and/or other partners involved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Secretariat</i> • <i>With the assistance of experts</i>
Indicators/ achievements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Objectives, indicators and target levels</i> • <i>Reports produced</i>
Up to date results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>4 areas defined</i>
Main achievements	
<p>41. The second Meeting on the Ecosystem approach for designated experts was held in Athens on 9-10 July 2008. The meeting agreed that, for the purpose of implementing step 3 of the road map for the application of the ecosystem approach on assessing the ecological status, four areas shall be identified in the Mediterranean as shown in Fig. 4 of document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG 326/3 as follows: Area 1: Western Mediterranean Sea, Area 2: Adriatic Sea, Area 3: Ionian Sea and Central Mediterranean, Area 4: Aegean-Levantine sea. The identification is based on bio-geographic and oceanographic considerations and is provisional, liable to modification on the basis of the results of the assessment studies and further consideration.</p>	

42. Activities related to the implementation of the ecosystem approach road map should be conducted in all four areas and there is no need at this stage to have a pilot project on a geographical basis. Pilot projects could be identified on specific issues to prepare the ground for the implementation of some steps of the road map, taking into account all relevant information.

43. The Secretariat, assisted by experts, shall as soon as possible initiate an activity to apply the approved road map to a selected number of ecological objectives, as far as possible common to all four areas, and falling under the competence of MED POL and SPA/RAC. It will be a brain storming exercise and desk study based on existing available information intended to test and develop methodologies. Besides developing operational objectives with indicators and target levels, an attempt will also be made to adapt ongoing MAP activities and processes to the requirements of the ecosystem approach.

44. In order to achieve step 3 of the road map, an assessment document should be prepared for each of the four areas. The preparation of the assessment document for each area will be undertaken by a group of experts consisting of at least one expert from each bordering state and with the support of the MAP components. The groups will be open to all Contracting Parties. Overall coordination of the groups will be assumed by the Secretariat; however, if deemed necessary, each group may designate a coordinator. The table of contents of the document should be the same for each area but slight flexibility will be allowed where properly justified. A provisional Table of Contents was agreed upon, but the final version will be prepared by the Secretariat after 30 days during which Contracting Parties may send in writing any specific suggestions for modifications.

45. For the purpose of assisting the groups on the assessment methodologies to be used, the Secretariat with the help of experts will compile and examine already available assessment methodologies. They will also examine possible qualitative descriptors of the ecosystem. The results of this work as well as the results of the first task of the Area groups will be forwarded to the Third Meeting of Government-designated Experts on the Application of the Ecosystem Approach by MAP, which is expected to take place in late spring 2009.

46. The Secretariat shall a) undertake a socio-economic analysis of the goods and services provided by the ecosystem and the cost of degradation of the marine and coastal environment, (b) prepare a plan for stakeholder involvement and public awareness and participation and (c) prepare a more comprehensive planning document for the implementation of the road map, including: (i) time schedule, (ii) actors with their responsibilities, including terms of reference of the groups in paragraph 4, (iii) deliverables and (iv) links with other ongoing activities such as Horizon 2020 and EEA activities.

Constraints and Lessons learned

47. This was a successful meeting because it gave the Secretariat the green light to go ahead with the application of the ecosystem approach in spite of initial doubts about the outcome. One major constraint is the fact that some experts tend to change from one meeting to the other. As a result some issues already resolved in the previous meeting were again raised from the floor. The participation of the same experts in these technical meetings is essential for the sake of continuity.

48. A number of tasks have now been identified which involve most MAP components. In order for the tasks to be successfully implemented, more integration and coherence is required among all the components. Sectoral approaches have to be abandoned. Interaction among multiple policy instruments responsible for the management of the uses of the marine ecosystem should be addressed in a coordinated manner.

Draft Recommendations

- 1. *The Bureau is invited to consider the results of the second meeting of experts on the ecosystem approach and provide any advice it may deem appropriate.***
- 2. *The Bureau is requested to invite the Secretariat to ensure the participation, cooperation and involvement of all MAP components in the process and especially in the implementation of the tasks that have been decided upon at the last meeting of experts.***

4. Cooperation and Partnership

Main Goal: *Sound, broad-ranging cooperation and synergy with relevant international and regional organizations as well as civil society, for the effective implementation of the Programme of Work.*

Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>To maintain and improve cooperation with the relevant UN bodies and the Convention Secretariats (Biodiversity, Basel, Ramsar, Stockholm, etc.) in fields of common interest.</i> • <i>To consolidate cooperation with the EC and EEA with a view to implementing the joint programme of work and in particular the activities within the Euro MED Horizon 2020 initiative.</i> • <i>To ensure NGO participation in MAP activities and enhance their contribution to the achievement of MAP objectives, with particular focus on the implementation of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols as well as of the MSSD.</i> • <i>To further cooperate with GEF, WB, EIB, FFEM and other funding Agencies and the private sector in order to mobilize the necessary financial resources for the implementation of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols.</i> • <i>To promote regional and sub-regional cooperation.</i>
Expected outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Project funded and implemented by NGOs</i> • <i>MAP partners attend meetings and present position papers</i> • <i>MAP/civil society cooperation assessed</i> • <i>Joint activities with regional initiatives planned and implemented</i>
MAP Components and/or other partners involved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Secretariat</i> • <i>RACs</i>
Indicators/ achievements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>NGO contributions to MAP objective achievement increased</i> • <i>Position papers submitted</i> • <i>List of MAP partners updated</i> • <i>Stronger partnership criteria developed</i> • <i>MAP visibility increased</i> • <i>Sunergy and cooperation with regional initiatives ensured</i>
Up to date results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>MAP/NGO cooperation assessment process launched</i> • <i>Joint activities with NGOs implemented</i>
<p>Main achievements</p> <p>4.1 Cooperation with UN Agencies, EU, Regional initiatives</p> <p>49. Relations continued to be developed with those UN agencies and Conventions in those areas of mutual interest. Both the Secretariat and the different MAP components embarked on different initiatives together with relevant UN institutions and organizations related to the implementation of their Programme of Work. The Secretariat maintained continuous dialogue with the Division of Environmental Policy Implementation in Nairobi within the framework of the Regional Seas Programmes.</p> <p>50. The MAP Coordinator participated in the 16th Session of the UN Commission for Sustainable Development, in the UNEP Governing Council Meeting/Global Environment Forum in Monaco while the MEDU Programme Officer represented MAP at the last meeting of the Conference of the Parties of the CBD.</p>	

51. Great progress has been registered with respect to the GEF Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Marine Large Ecosystem. Negotiations with the Division of Global Environment Facility (DGEF) in Nairobi have been finalized and the budget approved. Terms of Reference for the engagement of the Project Management Unit have also been concluded. Once the Internal Cooperation Agreement between DGEF and DEPI in Nairobi is signed a call for applications will be issued for the recruitment of the three staff members that will form the Project Management Unit. This is expected to take place by the end of 2008.

52. Relations between UNEP/MAP and the EC were strengthened in different areas. Both the Secretariat and all MAP components continued to develop their working relationship with the EC within the framework of different programmes and projects. With respect to the Secretariat, together with MED POL, MAP continued to take an active part in the EC Initiative Horizon 2020. The European Investment Bank has now identified a number of bankable projects on the basis of the NAPs developed by MED POL.

53. MAP is gaining very strong visibility through its association with this initiative especially through the promotional initiatives launched by the EC. Horizon 2020 is also one of the six projects approved in the Joint Declaration issued by the Paris Summit which established the Barcelona Process Union for the Mediterranean. MAP is being acknowledged as a main partner in this initiative to the extent that the MAP Coordinator was invited and participated at the Paris Summit which approved various projects for the Mediterranean.

54. Talks were also held recently between MAP and the OSPAR Secretariat to strengthen cooperation between both organizations in particular with respect to the application of the ecosystem approach. Experiences were also exchanged with regard to the implications for both OSPAR and MAP of the implementation of the EC's Marine Strategy Framework Directive. In view of the decision of the last meeting of the Contracting Parties with respect to carbon sequestration in geological formations, about which OSPAR has already made considerable progress, it was agreed to exchange experiences and documents which would be of mutual interest.

Union for the Mediterranean and MAP/Barcelona Convention

55. The proposal for a Mediterranean Union was originally made by the French President Nicolas Sarkozy during his election campaign in Toulon in February 2007. This proposal has evolved from the initial "Mediterranean Union" to the "Union for the Mediterranean". It is now being called "Barcelona Process –Union for the Mediterranean" following the European Union Summit in March 2008. The Union is expected to be launched on 13th July in Paris during a Summit meeting of the 27 EU Heads of States and Governments and Southern Mediterranean countries as well as Jordan and Mauritania.

56. The EU sees this initiative as a way of building on and reinforcing the Barcelona Process, which has been the central instrument for Euro-Mediterranean relations since 1995. In its communication of 19-20 June the European Council said that it sees it also as an opportunity to inject further momentum into the Union's relations with the Mediterranean complimenting ongoing bilateral relations that will continue within the existing policy frameworks. With the participation of all EU countries, there is now consensus on the EU's position.

57. From a political point of view, the Union for the Mediterranean presents a great opportunity for the Barcelona Convention and MAP. All the countries to the South of the Mediterranean are Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention. In fact this initiative was mentioned in the Almeria Declaration approved by the last meeting in January 2008, where the Contracting Parties took note of the Rome Declaration of December 2007, concerning the Union for the Mediterranean initiative, which should build upon the Barcelona Convention/Mediterranean Action Plan, the Euro Mediterranean Partnership, including its Horizon 2020 initiative.

58. Projects are going to be at the heart of this Union for the Mediterranean initiative. Among the projects approved is the Horizon 2020 initiative to de-pollute the Mediterranean with a first stage investment of \$2 billion. UNEP/MAP stands to benefit because it is deeply involved in the identification of projects for implementation under Horizon 2020. MAP's involvement in Horizon 2020 would also ensure that there would be no duplication of effort with the GEF Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean which is being launched by UNEP/MAP and the World Bank, and which also has among its objectives the de-pollution of the Mediterranean waters. When lobbying the countries both from the EU and from the South of the Mediterranean, UNEP/MAP has been maintaining that whatever initiatives are launched to de-pollute the Mediterranean, use should be made of the Mediterranean Action Plan, which is an existing mechanism, involving all the countries of the Mediterranean without exception, and with thirty years of experience working in the field of pollution reduction in the region. Such a position finds support among the countries in the region who are against the creation of new mechanisms or institutions.

Constraints and lessons learnt

59. Due to the lengthy and bureaucratic procedures the process for the setting up of the Project Management Unit (PMU) for the GEF Strategic Partnership could not be launched. If the ICA between DGEF and Nairobi was signed earlier, perhaps the PMU could have been in place and operational by the end of 2008.

Recommendations/suggestions

4.2 Cooperation with NGOs, MAP/Partners

Main achievements

4.2.1 MAP/Civil society cooperation assessment

60. In view of the entry into force of the amended Barcelona Convention and the adoption of the MSSD, and in order to enable MAP to cope with the new scenario in the Mediterranean region, there is a need to revise and focus MAP/NGO/Civil Society cooperation. In this context, the 15th meeting held in Almeria, Spain, in January 2008, advised the Secretariat to evaluate the effectiveness of MAP/NGO cooperation, to review the list of partners and to make relevant proposals to the 16th Meeting of the Contracting Parties.

61. The Secretariat in consultation with the RACs, including MED POL, has undertaken the assessment process taking into account the following considerations, expected outputs, procedures and participatory approach:

4.2.1.1 General considerations

62. Over the last ten years, the partnership between MAP and civil society has been developed at different levels from technical cooperation, policy/legal issues and governance.

63. This cooperation and partnership has been established on the basis of the principles, strategic directions and criteria adopted in Barcelona 1995, Malta 1999 and Monaco 2001. In accordance with Article 20 of the revised Barcelona Convention, the meetings of the Contracting Parties have established the List of MAP partners along with specific procedures and criteria to be applied for the admission to and retention on the list of different organizations representing civil society. This list is composed of national and regional organizations or networks thereof, representing three major groups: Local Authorities, Socio Economic Actors, and Environmental NGOs. The current number of MAP partners is 88, geographically representing the entire Mediterranean region and the major groups.

64. As agreed by the 11th meeting of the Contracting Parties held in Malta in 1999, the main objectives of MAP/NGO cooperation are:

- To advance the general purposes of MAP and to promote the policies, strategies and programmes derived from the Barcelona Convention and its protocols and decisions of the meetings of the Contracting Parties;
- To obtain expert information, law and advice, technical cooperation and assistance from international, regional and national NGOs;
- To enable the NGOs, which represent important sectors of public opinion in the Mediterranean- to express the views of their members on environmental issues, raise public awareness and influence public opinion and action for the benefit of the environment.
- Since 2003, the meetings of the Contracting Parties have also allocated financial resources on an annual basis for implementing MAP policy on MAP/NGO cooperation, in particular to assist MAP partners in strengthening their capacities and networks, implementing projects and activities falling within the scope of MAP, and attending important MAP meetings related to policy and developing legal tools apart from the main institutional meetings of the decision making body of MAP and the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols.

4.2.1.2 Scope and objectives of the Assessment

65. The assessment of MAP/NGO cooperation should not be limited to simply identifying the extent to which the current MAP Partners have met the criteria in order to remain on the list. It should review the entire system in terms of the policy framework established almost 10 years ago as complemented over the years by other decisions of the Contracting Parties, details for implementing such a policy, actions taken by each actor (Contracting Parties, Partners, Secretariat and the RACs) as well as the organizational structure of the MAP Partners as a whole. The main objective is to promote good practice throughout MAP and in particular to identify ways and means to make this relationship more effective, taking into account, where appropriate, UNEP Guidelines for improving the Global Civil Society Forum Cycle, the Almaty Guidelines on Public Participation approved in the framework of the Aarhus Convention, and EU policy on civil society.

66. The objectives of the assessment are to:

- 1) Provide an overview of current practice at policy and operational level;
- 2) Identify lessons learned and best practices in MAP/NGO cooperation and extend them throughout MAP;
- 3) Suggest ways and means for making MAP's cooperation and partnership with civil society more effective, including *inter alia* identifying the:
 - *Principles that should guide and govern MAP/civil society partnership and cooperation*
 - *Strategic and operational objectives of MAP/civil society partnership and cooperation for both MAP and its partners*
 - *Main elements for an updated policy for MAP/Civil Society partnership, including the criteria and procedures for admission and retention on the list of MAP partners, including the responsibilities assumed by the chosen MAP partners*
 - *Details of civil society inputs into policy, legal matters, the design of the programme of work and its implementation as well as capacity building programmes for MAP partners*
 - *Implementing measures or actions by the Contracting Parties, Secretariat and the RACs and Partners themselves to ensure that consultation/participation processes related to a) policy formulation from the earliest stages of the process, b) programme formulation and implementation c) project implementation according to their field of expertise*
 - *public information and awareness activities can be carried out in an effective manner*
 - *Different possible scenarios related to the establishment of an organizational and structural mechanism for all MAP partners in order to facilitate their effective communication and participation in the main MAP events and activities, preparation, where possible, of joint position papers bearing in mind the need to ensure balanced geographical and major group representation*
 - *Effectiveness monitoring and evaluation tools for the partnership*

4.2.1.3 Participatory approach

67. The Secretariat has contracted Prof. Michel Prieur, a French national, to conduct various tasks with respect to the evaluation process. Steps have been envisaged and to some extent already undertaken to consult members of the Secretariat, the RACs, MAP partners, MAP focal points and members of the Bureau on several occasions during the assessment process.

68. The main draft findings and recommendations will finally be submitted to the Bureau for its consideration before being submitted to a meeting with the representatives of MAP/ NGO-Civil Society partners for final validation.

4.2.2 MAP/NGO Activities

69. A number of MAP activities were organized with the participation of NGOs. MED POL and Clean Up Greece carried out an awareness campaign about marine litter. MIO-ECSDE together with MAP and the Greek Ministry for the Environment organized a side event on Climate Change in the Mediterranean during the UNCSD 16.

Draft Recommendation

The Bureau is invited to undertake a discussion on the main aforementioned considerations on the basis of which the Secretariat has launched the MAP/Civil Society cooperation assessment process, and to advise as it feels fit. Any suggestions concerning the involvement of Bureau members in the consultation process would be particularly welcome.

5. Mediterranean Commission for Sustainable Development

Main Goal: *to pursue sustainable development as defined in the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development through*

- The integration of social, economic and environmental dimensions of sustainable development policy making at the regional and national levels,
- The adoption of an integrated, cross-sectoral and broadly participatory approach to sustainable development,
- The provision of technical assistance, expert advice and capacity building to support developing countries in their efforts to achieve sustainable development,
- The cooperation, exchange of information and the organization of joint activities and partnerships with UN Agencies, the European Commission and other international and regional organizations, governments and civil society groups in support of sustainable development,
- The monitoring and evaluation of and reporting on the implementation of sustainable development at the national and regional levels,
- The effective involvement of civil society, major groups and other related stakeholders in the implementation process,
- The use of information and communication tools, educational activities and public participation in order to increase the visibility of the MSSD, and to ensure a broad understanding of the need to engage in its full implementation

Objective 1	<i>Develop or update national strategies for sustainable development in Mediterranean countries with broad participation of civil society and other stakeholders while giving due consideration to the MSSD vision, orientations and objectives.</i>
Expected outputs	<i>NSSD formulation process in four countries</i>
MAP Components and/or other partners involved	<i>MEDU Concerned RACs UNEP Regional Office (Geneva)</i>
Indicators/ achievements	<i>NSSDs are successfully developed in the four countries by the end of 2008.</i>
Up to date results	<i>NA</i>
<p>Main achievements</p> <p>5.1 NSSD Implementation</p> <p>(i) National level</p> <p>70. With additional funds received from the Spanish development organization, AZAHAR, four other countries can be involved and a NSSD regional workshop organized. In 2007, applying the same criteria as during the first phase, UNEP MAP has identified candidate countries: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Lebanon and Tunisia. Eight countries following similar approaches would build up a significant experience and stimulate synergies and cooperation.</p> <p>71. Montenegro that was involved at an earlier stage presented its strategy during the CSD meeting side event demonstrating an example of success story. As far as Tunisia is concerned, the standard MoU has been considerably adapted to the country specific situation in order to accommodate the long existing and substantial experience of Tunisia in terms of sustainable development. The MoU has been signed and is effective.</p> <p>(ii) Decentralised level</p> <p>72. The prospects for pilot actions that foster MSSD implementation also at the local levels have been identified. Since the islands of the Mediterranean region are often confronted to similar environment, social and economic issues and challenges, supporting local authorities in the formulation and implementation of Island Strategies for Sustainable Development (ISSD) appears to be promising. The objectives are to integrate MSSD into policy frameworks and instruments at the local level; engage stakeholders; build capacity; manage and disseminate knowledge and information; and mobilize and allocate resources.</p> <p>73. After preliminary discussions with the concerned local authorities and universities, progress have been made in Elba (Italy) and Mytilini (Greece), while Gozo (Malta) is still at the exploratory stage. A MoU has recently been signed with the local authorities of the Tuscany Archipelago (Elba) for revisiting of the Local Agenda 21 of the island.</p>	

Constraints and Lessons learnt

(i) National level

74. Concerning the candidate countries other than Tunisia, developments have been uneven due to political circumstances and the MoUs still need to be signed. Lebanon does not have yet the required political and institutional stability, and the other countries are undergoing substantial re organization with major changes in the mandates of the concerned institutions. In Bosnia and Herzegovina the very complicated governance structure and the difficulties encountered during the transition period makes it difficult to convince the Directorate for Economic Planning that NSSD can be included in the Strategy of B&H Development 2008-2013.

75. Albania also is at a crucial stage of institutional strengthening of its reform process. Because the UNEP MAP support to the NSSD formulation has to build upon what already exists in the country, it is crucial that the proposed support streams into The *National Strategy for Socio economic Development* and its implementation.

76. The launching visits in the countries are opportunities to liaise with the community of donors and take advantage of the existing programmes (Country Assistance Programme of the World Bank, UNDP Country Programme). With the view to factor UNEP MAP support into the UN coordinated effort, collaboration have also to be pursued with UNEP Regional Office for Europe Geneva that is responsible for the environmental part of the One UN Approach in Albania (ii) Decentralised level

77. In Mytilini, the University of the Aegean - that has a MoU with UNEP MAP- is currently discussing with the local authorities the ways and means to initiate the ISSD process in the island. Close collaboration is being sought with relevant national universities -e.g. the Pisa University, the Aegean University and the Malta University- with the possible involvement of Local Agendas 21 and the collaboration of the Ministries of Environment. The universities, involved as resource institutions, would thus have the opportunity to: progressively establish a regional network of universities for sustainable development; involve their students in concrete field activities; strengthen research and teaching activities on sustainable development; develop collaboration with experts of the MAP components as well as decision-makers and local authorities; and, exchange and build up knowledge, including with MAP components. With so many actors involved, the process is not always as easy and immediate as anticipated. Full support of the various MAP components, including Focal Points would contribute to mobilise them effectively.

Draft Recommendation

National level: Given the necessity to accumulate NSSD experience that will be shared and discussed during the next MCSD meeting and also considering the difficulties to proceed in some of the proposed countries, the financial resources from the Spanish cooperation organization will be re-allocated to support interested countries in mainstreaming climate change into existing policy frameworks such as NSSD.

Objective 2	<i>To implement the MSSD in synergy and cooperation with the work of other international and regional institutions through enhanced relations with other sustainable development frameworks.</i>
Expected outputs	<i>Assessment of (sub) regional initiatives and opportunities for synergy</i>
MAP Components and or other partners involved	<i>MEDU MED POL EC</i>
Indicators/ achievements	<i>MSSD is implemented in synergy and cooperation with other international regional institutions.</i>
Up to date results	<i>NA</i>
Main achievements	
5.2 Synergy and Cooperation	
<p>78. TORs for a Comparative study of MSSD and Horizon 2020 were prepared. The study would make a comparison of the proposed/existing implementation mechanisms and responsibilities: working groups, financial mechanisms and strategies, roles of focal points, countries' and regional stakeholders involvement, responsibilities in implementation, IGOs and regional organizations' responsibilities, monitoring and evaluation (including the utilisation of indicators), knowledge management and information sharing, capacity building programmes, programme versus project approaches, etc. Elements to increased coherence and convergence between strategic frameworks and their implementation would be thus identified.</p>	
Constraints and Lessons learnt	
<p>79. Additional funding could not be found from EC to contribute to increase the relevance and acceptability of the study while fostering a collaborative effort between UNEP/MAP, EC (including EEA).</p>	
Recommendations/suggestions	

Objective 3	<i>To monitor the implementation of the MSSD and the MCSD programme of work</i>
Expected outputs	<i>Meeting of the Steering Committee</i>
MAP Components and or other partners involved	<i>MEDU</i>
Indicators/ achievements	<i>Progress achieved in the implementation of the MSSD and the MCSD programme of work.</i>
Up to date results	<i>NA</i>

Main achievements

5.3 MCSD steering Committee

80. The Twelfth Meeting of the MCSD Steering Committee was held at the premises of the Coordinating Unit of the Mediterranean Action Plan (UNEP/MAP) in Athens (Greece) on 19 and 20 June 2007. The objectives were to discuss the implications on MCSD of the recent developments within the MAP system and outside, and to initiate a process toward the organization of the 13th MCSD Meeting in 2009. The results include concrete actions, measures and activities that are deemed necessary to make MCSD more responsive to its changing political and institutional environment, as well as a set of strategic principles and criteria to guide and evaluate MCSD functioning and work programme. With this meeting, the MCSD Secretariat has kicked off closer and more continuous interactions with the Steering Committee, thus engaging the Committee beyond the mere preparation of MCSD meetings. Indeed a regular dialogue between the Steering Committee and the MCSD Secretariat is deemed necessary to improve the intersession work and to ensure that MCSD delivers according to the needs of the region and in synchronization with the international calendars and commitments.

81. Climate Change will be the structuring theme of the next MCSD meeting. The next MCSD meeting is indeed the opportunity to prepare and articulate the position of the region on climate change issues for the next Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen in 2009. MCSD can bring the Mediterranean stakeholders' perspective into the Climate Change dialogue. To do so, a focus on adaptation and North South cooperation is deemed necessary.

82. Major achievements comprise:

- the commitment of the Steering Committee to play a more proactive role in the functioning of MCSD particularly during the inter sessions
- the engagement to interact more frequently and on a regular basis with the MCSD Secretariat, and in particular to contribute actively to the preparation of the next MCSDS meeting.
- the establishment of a Task Force to prepare the next MCSD meeting with a specific focus on Adaptation to Climate Change
- the decision that MCSD has to re-appropriate the working groups for itself, take decisions on its own account concerning their establishment and their themes, agree on task managers, as envisaged in its constitutional texts. In particular SC stressed the need to return to the original objective of the working groups from which they had become distanced over time through an insidious slippage towards the RACs.

Constraints and Lessons learnt

83. The following observations could be made:

1. In addition to the participation of UNEP MAP representatives in CSD events, MCSD and CSD programmes have to be well synchronized.
2. NSSD activities proposed to the countries have to be more concrete. A focus on a limited number of MSSD priorities would help the concerned institutions to embark on the process more effectively.
3. Working at the subregional level would help tackle issues that are more relevant to the countries. Subregional approach for the implementation of MSSD has to be considered.
4. Consider reverting to the original practice whereby there is a Task Manager for each WG, (usually a country and not necessarily a RAC). The different RACs support the different WG groups as deemed necessary.

5. RACs have an important role to play in the context of MCSD. Their respective work needs to be more integrated.
6. It is important to maintain communication between MCSD members, particularly now that the MCSD meets on a bi annual basis. The SC is essential in maintaining this communication.
7. Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) has to build upon the existing strategies in particular the MSSD. There is a need to establish a good interface between MCSD and the UfM. In the long term the possibility of a joint secretariat could emerged.

Draft Recommendations

1. *The Bureau may wish to request the Secretariat to strengthen the MCSD intersession work by mobilizing the Steering Committee and maintain regular communication between members.*
2. *The Bureau is invited to discuss and advise the Secretariat on the establishment of a Task Force to prepare the next MCSD meeting that will emphasize adaptation to climate change. The Bureau may also wish to suggest to the Secretariat to consider a MCSD Working Group on climate change that would explore cross sectoral issues.*
3. *The Bureau may want to suggest to the Secretariat to explore the role that the MCSD could play in the newly established Barcelona Process-Union for the Mediterranean.*

6. Information and Communication

Main Goal/s: *The general public and partners are aware and better informed about MAP activities and achievements within the framework of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols for the promotion of sustainable development in the Mediterranean.*

<p>Objectives part 1</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>to enhance the environmental awareness among the general public;</i> 2. <i>to increase the visibility of MAP and the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols with the view to promoting their implementation;</i> 3. <i>to launch and implement coordinated information and educational campaigns and special activities to underline the importance of public participation in the conservation and management of the environment;</i>
<p>Expected outputs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Develop and produce a portable exhibition on MAP to be made available to RACs and Secretariat for conferences and exhibition</i> • <i>Develop and produce a school kit on MAP activities and the Mediterranean</i> • <i>MAP website regular upgrading in EN, FR, Arabic and Spanish</i> • <i>Promotion of MAP activities through the media</i> • <i>Review of MAP information strategy</i>
<p>MAP Components and/or other partners involved</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Secretariat</i> - <i>Danube Convention</i> - <i>NGOs</i> - <i>MFPs</i> - <i>INFO/RAC</i>

<p>Indicators/ achievements</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Exhibition used by RACs and relevant MAP components at public events</i> • <i>The MAP school kit is available by summer 2009</i> • <i>Frequency of exposure in the media and publications of activities by MAP and its components</i> • <i>MAP Information Strategy is submitted for approval by the 16th Meeting of the Contracting Parties</i>
<p>Up to date results</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>12 media releases published since January 2008</i> • <i>MAP exhibition produced, displayed at COP15 in Almeria; Zappion Event in cooperation with Greek Ministry of Environment (16.04.08). Individual components distributed to RACs for their use and display.</i> • <i>Contacts with different national components have been established to look at what is produced nationally as school kits and develop a concept that could be used throughout the region. Also direct contacts with the Danube Convention Secretariat to see how they developed a similar tool.</i> • <i>Over 150 media clippings since January 2008, among which Financial Times 22.04.08; ERT-NET 6.05.08</i> • <i>Public event organized in Athens, in cooperation with Greek Ministry of Environment and directed at the Diplomatic Corps in Greece</i> • <i>Organization of the celebrations of World Environment Day in support of UNEP HQ with event and Prize giving to the regional winner in Athens</i> • <i>The MAP website is online, regularly updated and linked to all RACs individual sites</i>
<p>Main achievements</p> <p>84. This kind of event has proven an excellent platform to consolidate MAP's visibility and outreach to targeted audiences. The Zappion event has contributed to a significant strengthening of the relation between MAP and the Diplomatic Corps in Greece, as well as with the relevant representatives from the Ministry of Environment. MAP was approached after the event by the diplomatic representative of Bosnia Herzegovina in Greece to organize a similar activity at national level. Further to the event, MAP Coordinator was also invited to meet the Bosnia Herzegovina Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs during a visit to Athens in order to discuss possible future cooperation.</p> <p>85. MAP media coverage collected in particular in relation to the 15th Contracting Parties' meeting is available online and as a hard copy.</p>	
<p>Constraints and Lessons learnt</p> <p>86. The MAP website was developed and put online in 2007 by MAP Secretariat, using funds originally allocated under a general line for increasing MAP visibility, while awaiting reimbursement from Italy which was originally in charge of the project through the INFO/RAC center.</p> <p>87. Once such funds are recuperated, it will be possible to look at funding and developing additional features for the MAP website such as support structure for posting of videos and photos galleries.</p>	

88. Regarding the MAP Information Strategy, following the Almeria's decision to have the Secretariat in charge of this issue, initial discussions have taken place between MAP Secretariat and DEPI Director to ensure that such strategy is developed within the framework of the overall Regional Seas and UNEP Information strategy.

89. It was therefore agreed that MAP Information Officer will liaise closely in the coming months with UNEP Communication Department to discuss and develop the strategy within such UNEP framework.

Recommendations/Suggestions

Objectives part 2	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>to continue and expand publication and distribution of brochures, leaflets, posters, reports, newsletters and other information material and to strengthen the use of the media in all its forms;</i> 2. <i>to enhance and strengthen the exchange of information and experience on the environmental problems of the region and to develop cooperation and networking in this field.</i>
Expected outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>In cooperation with RACs, write, develop and produce thematic brochures on key issues for the region (water resources; climate change; energy; biodiversity; pollution) in 4 languages</i> • <i>Within the framework of the MSSD, develop a series of illustrated leaflets for grassroot education with targeted audiences</i> • <i>Setup an online photo database of images on environmental issues in the Mediterranean for MAP components' use and exchange</i> • <i>Produce MedWaves magazine and MedWaves monthly newsletter</i> • <i>Publications of MTS publications</i> • <i>MAP Library upgrading</i>
MAP Components and/or other partners involved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Secretariat</i> - <i>RACs</i> - <i>INFO/RAC</i> - <i>MED POL</i> - <i>EEA</i> - <i>MSSD</i> - <i>UNEP</i> - <i>UNICEF</i> - <i>NGOs</i> - <i>International Network of Libraries</i>

<p>Indicators/ achievements</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Brochures available and regularly used at public events throughout the region.</i> • <i>Educational leaflets produced and distributed through various networks</i> • <i>MAP components use the online photo database</i> • <i>MedWaves magazine and e-newsletter are regularly published and distributed in 3 languages, electronically and/or in printed form.</i> • <i>MTS are produced on CD ROM and distributed</i> • <i>More frequent use of the library and reference documents is made</i>
<p>Up to date results</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>WHO brochure + CDROM on water and sanitation. Text is currently with the designer for layout proposal. Final amendments to the text by WHO are due at the time of writing.</i> • <i>3 MTS produced (169; 170; 171)</i> • <i>MAP library has helped coordinating a meeting of the Mediterranean libraries to be held in October 2008. Funds to support the participation of some Mediterranean countries representatives were also made available by the Spanish member of the network.</i> • <i>E-newsletters regularly produced</i> <i>The activities not yet listed here are in the preparatory phase</i>
<p>Main achievements</p> <p>See above</p>	
<p>Constraints and Lessons learnt</p> <p>90. The overall scope of activities is significant for quite a small Information Unit (one Information Officer, one Information Assistant, one Librarian and one support Public Relations assistant.</p> <p>91. The Secretariat would greatly benefit from a stronger input from RACs and NGOs components in providing articles, data and materials in general to be included in MAP publications.</p> <p>92. Perhaps the establishment of a regular Editorial Board with the participation of all RACs plus MEDU Secretariat could provide the appropriate platform to discuss publication items, articles and contributions. This could be organized in conjunction/ during the ECP meetings.</p>	
<p>Recommendations/Suggestions</p>	

7. Financial, Personnel and Administrative Matters

7.1 *Financial matters*

7.1.1 Remittance of Contributions

93. The status of the Mediterranean Trust Fund as at 30 June 2008 stood as follows:
- Total pledges of ordinary contributions for 2008: € 6,594,138
 - Total collections during 2008 for 2008: € 389,640 (6 % of 2008 pledges).
 - Total of unpaid pledges for 2007 & prior years: € 1,794,284
 - Total of collections during 2008 for prior years: € 901,826 (50 % of 2007 & prior years outstanding pledges).
94. Details of payments and outstanding contributions are at **Annex V**.

7.1.2 Programme Budget of MAP

95. MAP 2008-2009 projects have been created for MEDU, MED POL and all the RACs and are being implemented in line with the budgets as approved by the Contracting Parties. Internal revisions are being carried out to ensure that the 2006 –2007 accounts are closed and consequently all previous biennium projects shall be closed.

96. The Financial section at Nairobi Headquarters has requested a written approval from the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention due to the separation of Serbia-Montenegro entity into two distinct countries. Therefore there is a need to write-off 2006 & 2007 related pledges (amounting up to € 36,000) and instate Montenegro – a Mediterranean riparian country – with an assessed contribution of € 1,294 per annum.

Draft Recommendations

- 1. *In view of the low percentage of contributions received during 2008 for 2008 when compared to previous years (75%) the Bureau may wish to invite the Secretariat to request Nairobi to send urgent reminders to the Contracting Parties to settle their contributions.***
- 2. *On the basis of the agreement by the Contracting Parties in Almeria (Spain), the Bureau is invited to approve that the Secretariat informs officially the financial section at Nairobi about the decision of the Contracting Parties on this matter.***

7.2 *Personnel Matters*

97. **Deputy Coordinator** (Post No: MEL-2322-2904-2664-1102-00): the post has been advertised and the vacancy announcement was posted on the Galaxy on 18 April 2008 with a deadline for applications on 17 June 2008. All MAP Focal Points were informed of the opening of the post by email on 21 April 08. 236 applications for the post were received; an interviewing panel was established by Nairobi. A shortlist of candidates to be interviewed was drawn up in consultation with Nairobi.

98. Setting up of a Project Management Unit for the execution of the Regional Component of the GEF project “Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Large Marine Ecosystem” which includes:

- **GEF Project Manager** (Post No: GFL-2328-4727-2731-1101-00): the post is under reclassification
- **GEF Mediterranean Marine & Coastal Expert**: creation of the post at L3 level is pending UNEP approval.
- **GEF Administrative Assistant** (Post No: GF-6030-0609-1321): the post is under reclassification .

99. Once the Internal Cooperation Agreement between DGEF and Nairobi is signed a public call for applications will be issued to fill these posts.

MED POL Programme Officer (Post No: MEL-2322-2918-2664-1102-00): the selection process is completed. Mr. Michail Angelidis, a Greek national, was selected and appointed to the post at the P-4 level as of 10 January 2008.

Meeting Services Assistant (Post No: OTO-27800-EL-L002): the post was advertised internally, in the local press, and within other UN offices in Athens. The vacancy announcement was also posted on the Galaxy on 16 April 2008 for 30 days. Selection process is ongoing.

MED POL Secretary (Post No: MEL-2322-2918-2664-1301-00): the post was advertised on the Galaxy on 10 December 2007 for 30 days. The selection process is ongoing. The selection process has been completed. Ms. Nathalie Gomez has been appointed to the post.

Consultants working at UNEP/MAP premises:

Mr. Philippe Alirol's mission to follow up on MCSD issues has been extended from 1 May 2008 until 31 July 2008.

Ms. Giovanna Agostinelli has been working as regional expert for the GEF PDF-B project "Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Large Marine Ecosystem" from 1 June 2006 until 31 July 2008. Her engagement was partly financed by Italy.

7.3 Administrative matters

100. In December 2007, REMPEC moved to new offices, which were made available and refurbished by the Government of Malta. The Centre has been hosted in Malta since its establishment in 1976 and since then had always operated from its former offices in Manoel Island. The new offices, which are prominently situated at the Valletta Waterfront in Grand Harbour, provide better and more modern office facilities for the Centre. The new offices of REMPEC at 'Maritime House', Valletta were officially inaugurated on the 2 May 2008 by the Hon Lawrence Gonzi, Prime Minister of Malta in the presence of Mr Efthimios Mitropoulos, Secretary-General of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and Mr Paul Mifsud, Coordinator of the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

Part B COMPONENTS

1. Land-based Pollution (MED POL)

Main Goal/s: *To facilitate the implementation of the LBS Protocol and the SAP, the Dumping Protocol and its guidelines and the Hazardous Waste Protocol, as well as their entry into force*

Objective	<i>To facilitate the financing of NAPs</i>
Expected outputs	<i>NAPs pollution reduction interventions financed</i>
MAP Components and/or other partners involved	<i>EC, EIB, World Bank, GEF</i>
Indicators/ achievements	<i>Projects financed in 10 countries</i>
Results up to date	<i>44 projects were identified and are now being negotiated</i>
Main achievements	
<p>101. In the framework of the pollution reduction component of the EC Initiative Horizon 2020, the EIB has closely worked with MED POL to identify a number of projects to be financed. The projects were selected by the EIB from the priority interventions listed by the countries in the NAPs prepared as part of the implementation of the SAP. 44 projects were identified as bankable and now negotiations are ongoing between EIB and the respective national authorities on the terms and conditions of the loans. In parallel, the new GEF Strategic Partnership was finalized and approved by the Council. The Partnership is also expected to contribute to the implementation of the NAPs both in terms of national capacity building and in terms of project financing. The Partnership in fact comprehends two components, one managed by UNEP for capacity building and one managed by the World Bank for the financing of projects. The EIB project financing as part of the Horizon 2020 and the project financing of the World Bank as part of the GEF Partnership constitute a very promising synergy considering that they address the same objectives (i.e. financing and assisting the implementation of the NAPs), in different countries and from different angles, with the EIB covering large projects/investments and the World Bank covering smaller scale projects and investments. Concrete progress, i.e. the actual financing of projects, is expected during 2009.</p>	
Constraints and Lessons Learnt	
Recommendations/suggestions	

Main Goal/s: *To monitor the effectiveness of national measures taken to implement the Protocols*

Objectives	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>To assist countries to formulate and establish national monitoring programmes</i> 2. <i>To update the NBB methodology</i> 3. <i>To develop a comprehensive set of Marine Pollution Indicators</i>
Expected outputs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>National and regional databases</i> 2. <i>Methodology and content of NBB updated</i> 3. <i>Strengthened capacity of Contracting Parties to assess MPIs</i>
MAP Components and/or other partners involved	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. <i>EC (EPER)</i> 3. <i>EEA and Blue Plan</i>
Indicators/ achievements	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>National monitoring Programmes signed; data submitted</i> 2. <i>NBB updated</i> 3. <i>Indicator-based assessments prepared</i>
Results up to date	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Monitoring data received from seven countries; five new monitoring programme finalized</i> 2. <i>NBB updated</i> 3. <i>Joint work was carried out with EEA (in the framework of EMMA and the Horizon 2020) and with Blue Plan</i>
Main Achievements	
<p>102. Agreements for new Monitoring Programmes for the implementation of activities during 2008 and 2009 were finalized with Egypt, Montenegro, Morocco, Tunisia and Turkey, after visits to the countries.</p> <p>103. Monitoring data were received from Albania (2006-2007), Cyprus (2007), Israel (2006), Morocco (2007), Slovenia (2006), Tunisia (2007) and Turkey (2007). Data have been up-loaded to the MED POL Monitoring Data base.</p> <p>104. MED POL signed MoUs providing financial assistance to Albania, Croatia, Montenegro and Slovenia, for the implementation of the MYTIAD Programme (use of caged mussels for pollution evaluation in the coastal waters of Adriatic Sea). The programme is under implementation and will be finalized January 2009.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The content and the software of the National Baseline Budget (NBB) of pollution emissions and releases were updated and are now ready for the second exercise to be carried out in 2009. 2. MED POL participated with EEA in the development of Marine Pollution Indicators, taking part in Workshops and meetings. MED POL has also taken part in the work of EMMA for the comparison and convergence of EEA Marine Indicators with those developed by regional seas conventions (including the Barcelona Convention). The aim is to reach agreement on pan-European Marine Indicators. 3. MED POL is also collaborating with EEA and the Blue Plan in the development of indicators to be used for monitoring and reporting the progress of the Horizon 2020 Initiative. 	
Constraints and Lessons learnt	
Recommendations/suggestions	

Main Goal/s: *To build the capacity of national authorities for reporting, information gathering, transfer of technology, inspectorate systems and monitoring*

Objectives	1. <i>To make Phase I of MED POL Information System operational</i> 2. <i>To implement PRTR</i>
Expected outputs	1. <i>Intranet and online reporting for MED POL operational</i> 2. <i>PRTR reporting formats and database established</i>
MAP Components and/or other partners involved	1. <i>INFO/RAC</i> 2. <i>ICS-UNIDO</i>
Indicators/ achievements	1. <i>System operational</i> 2. <i>PRTR prepared and operational</i>
Results up to date	1. <i>Intranet and online system being finalized and tested</i> 2. <i>Info system and data base updated; active negotiations with countries for expanded or new PRTR Tur. Mor. full size./ Syr. new, assistance Egy.</i>
Main achievements	
<p>105. Cooperation with INFO/RAC continued in order to finalize the first phase of preparation of the MED POL Info System. The intranet module was completed and is being tested while some work has still to be carried out on the on-line reporting system for monitoring data. An agreement was signed with INFO/RAC to define the work expected to be completed by the end of 2008.</p> <p>106. In cooperation with ICS-UNIDO, the information system and the database for PRTR were successfully updated. Negotiations continued with Turkey, Morocco and Egypt to extensively enlarge the coverage of the project and with Syria, who expressed the will to participate, to launch a new project.</p>	
Constraints and Lessons learnt	
Recommendations/suggestions	

Main Goal/s: *To reduce the impact on the marine environment of litter and sea water desalination*

Objective	<i>To develop a regional plan for litter management</i>
Expected outputs	<i>An action plan</i>
MAP Components and/or other partners involved	<i>UNEP/Regional Seas, NGOs</i>
Indicators/ achievements	<i>Development of regional and national plans</i>
Results up to date	<i>Work on the updated assessment and the regional plan underway</i>
Main achievements	
<p>107. The publication "Medium-term public awareness for the management of marine litter in the Mediterranean" prepared in cooperation with three NGOs is being translated in Arabic for wider diffusion. With the support of UNEP/Regional Seas, the assessment of the status and management of marine litter in the Mediterranean has been updated by the Secretariat with the assistance of NGOs. The new assessment is being used for the preparation of a Strategy/Action Plan for the management of marine litter. The Strategy will be reviewed by an expert Meeting in September and later submitted to the Parties for approval</p>	
Constraints and Lessons learnt	
Recommendations/suggestions	

2. Sustainable Production and Consumption (Cleaner Production Regional Activity Center (CP/RAC))

2.1 Sustainable Production and Consumption

Main Goals: *The CP/RAC, in fulfilling its mission of promoting sustainable production and consumption, will therefore place special emphasis on two specific areas in which it has notable experience and major potential: the dissemination of green competitiveness, through the GRECO Initiative and the link between consumption and climate change. For the former there is recognition of the vital importance of mobilising the private sector and specifically the Mediterranean business fabric, as it is the latter that will ultimately be involved in the practical implementation of more sustainable modes of production. In terms of consumption and climate change, a key objective that has been set is to identify sustainable consumption patterns and to come up with new elements for improving climate change policy.*

It is with this in mind that the Programme of Work 2008 on Sustainable Consumption and Production was prepared, which encompasses the activities that the Centre is to carry out in 2008.

Objective 1	<i>To review the trends of Mediterranean countries regarding measures promoting the adoption of sustainable production by industries: State-of-the-art study on sustainable production and consumption in the industrial sector</i>
Expected outputs	<i>To prepare and publish a study on sustainable consumption and production in the industrial sector.</i>
MAP Components and/or other partners involved	<i>Mediterranean Countries</i>
Indicators/ achievements	<i>Preparation of the study and its translation into three languages (English, French and Spanish)</i>
<p>Main achievements</p> <p>108. Following the line of the Study, which was originally titled <i>State of Cleaner Production in Mediterranean Action Plan Countries</i>, in 2008 a new edition of the Study on the State of the Art in Sustainable Production in the Mediterranean Region is being prepared. This will principally deal with sustainable production in the industrial sectors of each of the Mediterranean countries. The aim is also to introduce matters concerning sustainable consumption in these sectors.</p> <p>109. To date, the scope and methodology of the study have been defined, and potential candidates to provide technical support in its development have been contacted. Likewise, contact has been made with the European Environment Agency (EEA), which has shown its support and interest in cooperating with the Centre in the dissemination of the document.</p> <p>110. The aim is to obtain the support of each of the Focal Points in order for them to supply updated data on the situation in their own country. Similarly, other agents will collaborate, such as the Mediterranean industrial associations, UMCE-BusinessMed and ASCAME.</p>	

111. This study, which is to be carried out in 2008 and published in English, French and Spanish in 2009, constitutes an essential source of information for the analysis of the general trends of the Mediterranean Region in this context.
Constraints and Lessons Learnt
Recommendations/suggestions

Objective 2	<i>To analyse consumption trends in the Mediterranean Region: Study on consumption trends in the Mediterranean Region</i>
Expected outputs	<i>To obtain a document that links consumption and climate change trends in the Mediterranean basin, as a valuable instrument to support the development of a more efficient climatic regime, including consumption, which will enable national world policies on the reduction of greenhouse gases to be drawn up more efficiently</i> <i>To make an innovative contribution to the world community for presentation at COP 14, as a policy instrument.</i>
MAP Components and/or other partners involved	<i>Contracting Parties and the International Community</i>
Indicators/ achievements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Report and leaflet finished.</i> - <i>Identification of shortcomings and work fields relating to consumption and climate change.</i> - <i>Report included in the Ministry for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food's 5-year Work Programme (2010-2014) for the priority area of climate change.</i>
Main achievements	
112. This activity consists in carrying out the technical aspects of a study on consumption trends in the Mediterranean Region, emphasising their relationship with greenhouse gas emissions. Likewise, the contents of the report will be prepared and adapted for dissemination.	
113. During the period of the progress report, the programme for work on consumption and climate change has been developed, in which the activity and scope of the study, as well as the general objectives are defined. Besides, experts have been identified and preliminary contacts established with them for preparation of the study.	
Constraints and Lessons Learnt	
Recommendations/suggestions	

Objective 3	<i>Mediterranean conference on SCP</i>
Expected outputs	<i>To hold a seminar on Sustainable Consumption and Production.</i>
MAP Components and/or other partners involved	<i>All Contracting Parties</i>

Indicators/ achievements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Identification of needs and priorities of SCP in Mediterranean countries.</i> - <i>Setting up of associations with relevant stakeholders for implementing pilot projects(s) in SCP.</i> - <i>Monitoring of activity in the pilot project and the results of the workshop.</i> - <i>Participation of the Mediterranean Region in the Marrakech Project.</i>
Main achievements <p>114. An initial draft has been prepared of the structure and content of the First Mediterranean Meeting on Sustainable Consumption and Production, which the CP/RAC is organising in collaboration with the Marrakech Process. This meeting is especially relevant, as no regional meeting of the Marrakech Process in the Mediterranean Region has been held, and this will be a significant milestone for the Centre.</p> <p>115. A report on this draft has been given to the UNEP/DTIE area responsible for coordinating the Marrakech Process, which has given its support to the meeting, as well as representatives of other organizations and bodies working in the field of Sustainable Consumption in the Mediterranean Region. In addition, the process of contacting experts to collaborate as speakers at the meeting is already underway.</p> <p>116. In this regard, Desta Mebratu is expected to participate with an explanation of the regional process for sustainable consumption and production in Africa, of which he is a coordinator, and in which a number of Mediterranean countries are already involved. In terms of the thematic area of consumption and climate change, experts have been identified and initial contact has been made with the aim of involving them in the event. A meeting has also been held with an OECD team working in the field of sustainable consumption, in order to identify synergies for the Conference, mainly in the field of consumption and climate change, as well as in terms of education for sustainable consumption.</p> <p>117. Provisionally, the meeting is to be held in October, and will focus on matters of special relevance both on a global level and within the region, such as: the promotion of sustainable alternatives for economic development; the relationship between consumption and climate change; as well as the role of governments, cooperation organizations and the civil society in promoting the awareness and adoption of sustainable consumption guidelines for the public in general.</p>	
Constraints and Lessons Learnt	
Recommendations/suggestions	

Objective 4	<i>Creating associations with key stakeholders in SCP</i>
Expected outputs	<p><i>State-of-the-art study on sustainable consumption and production in the industrial sector</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Identification of SCP needs and priorities in Mediterranean countries.</i> - <i>Setting up of associations with relevant stakeholders for implementing SCP pilot projects.</i> - <i>Monitoring of activity in pilot project and the results of the workshop.</i> - <i>Participation of the Mediterranean Region in the Marrakech Project.</i>
MAP Components and/or other partners involved	<p><i>All Contracting Parties and the International Community.</i></p>
Indicators/ achievements	<p><i>Contacts established with the identified interested parties, joint cooperation activities, agreements signed.</i></p>

<p>Main achievements</p> <p>118. During the first five months of 2008, meetings were held with various stakeholders, as well as informal contacts, to identify opportunities for collaboration and the development of joint activities in the setting of the principal international initiatives aimed at sustainable production and consumption, such as the UNEP Strategic Programme for the period 2010-2013 and the Marrakech Process. More specifically, with different areas of the OECD (consumption at policy level, consumption trends related to climate change, sustainable production), the European Environment Agency, international academic experts, UNEP (Consumption and Production Area), Greenpeace and the WWF, among others. In this same line of activity, the CP/RAC participated in the SCORE Conference held in Brussels in March, a forum of experts in sustainable consumption and production from universities, international organizations and civil society. The Centre, as an observer, also attended the Task Force on sustainable lifestyles led by Sweden, in the framework of the Marrakech Process.</p>
<p>Constraints and Lessons Learnt</p>
<p>Recommendations/suggestions</p>

<p>Objective 5</p>	<p><i>Promoting dialogue and debate with stakeholders</i></p>
<p>Expected outputs</p>	<p><i>State-of-the-art study on sustainable production and consumption in the industrial sector</i></p>
<p>MAP Components and/or other partners involved</p>	<p><i>All Contracting Parties and the International Community.</i></p>
<p>Indicators/ achievements</p>	<p><i>Promoting dialogue and debate among selected experts to obtain key points for the Study on Consumption Trends in the Mediterranean Region, as well for the definition of the parallel event during the Poznan COP 14.</i></p>
<p>Main achievements</p> <p>119. With the aim of promoting dialogue and discussion to gather inputs for the study into consumption trends in the Mediterranean Region, the CP/RAC has identified experts and key stakeholders, and has made positive preliminary contacts to involve them in a work meeting which aims to create the conditions required so that the priorities on sustainable production and consumption may reach the relevant stakeholders.</p> <p>120. Positive preliminary contacts have also been made for their involvement in the process, and the activity has been defined in a general manner. An initial meeting of a limited group of experts took place at the beginning of May.</p>	
<p>Constraints and Lessons Learnt</p>	
<p>Recommendations/suggestions</p>	

Objective 6	<i>Promoting IPPC principles in Mediterranean countries</i>
Expected outputs	<i>Holding a Seminar on IPPC in Mediterranean countries.</i>
MAP Components and/or other partners involved	<i>All Contracting Parties and the International Community.</i>
Indicators/ achievements	<i>Raising awareness in Mediterranean countries of the principles and application of the IPPC approach in the industrial sector. Mediterranean countries showing interest in developing initiatives for the application of IPPC.</i>
Main achievements	
<p>121. This activity is being carried out within the framework of the collaboration programme between the MAP and the European Commission and the Horizon 2020 Initiative, which aims to provide support to and join forces with initiatives already existing in the Mediterranean region, providing them with an additional boost to assist them in attaining their objective of decontaminating the region. The Regional Activity Centre for Cleaner Production (CP/RAC) organized the meeting with the collaboration of the IPPC Bureau itself, the European Commission, Med Pol and VITO.</p> <p>122. The meeting was held in June at the IPPC Bureau in Seville, the nerve centre for the application of the IPPC in Europe, and which supported and participated in the meeting. Those attending the workshop —45 individuals from Algeria, Belgium, Egypt, Germany, Israel, Lebanon, Libya, Turkey, Morocco, Syria, Tunisia and Spain— were especially interested in the existing prevention systems, the possibilities of standardising the permits applied for by each of the countries, and the availability of BAT Reference Documents (BREFs).</p> <p>123. After the workshops, a list of conclusions was drawn up, which included the importance of prevention and control in order to render industrial development sustainable, stressing the notion that profit is not at odds with environmental improvements.</p> <p>124. With regard to the BREF documents, in spite of having been drawn up in line with European requirements, it was considered that these could also be useful for non-European countries, which consequently asked to be included as observers in forthcoming reviews.</p>	
Constraints and Lessons Learnt	
Recommendations/suggestions	

Objective 7	<i>Implementation of BAT, BEP and Cleaner Technologies - Sustainable management of industrial estates</i>
Expected outputs	<p><i>To disseminate cleaner practices in the Mediterranean.</i></p> <p><i>Specific aims:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>- Implementation of sustainable management in 5 industrial zones in Tunisia.</i> <i>- To promote the capacity of consultants in GEDZI methods in Tunisia.</i> <i>- The creation of a GMG (Management and Maintenance Group) in the network of Tunisia, to facilitate the exchange of experiences and information.</i> <i>- The promotion in Morocco and Algeria of the capacity of consultants in GEDZI methods for establishing an application plan in each country</i> <i>- Creation of case studies in the Mediterranean Region for the "GRECO database".</i>

<p>MAP Components and/or other partners involved</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) <i>CAMP Morocco: Morocco; CAMP Spain: Spain</i> 2) <i>GEDZI Project: Tunisia, Morocco and Algeria.</i> 3) <i>CP/RAC Events: Mediterranean countries in which workshops and meetings are organized</i> 4) <i>Translation of BREF documents: Spain</i>
<p>Indicators/ achievements</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) <i>CAMP Morocco: Participation in the Tourism Workshop (Morocco), hotel guide</i> 2) <i>CAMP Spain: Finished Study (CAMP region in Spain), organization of 2 training workshops (CAMP region in Spain), studies and material sent on good CAMP practices to the region in Spain</i> 3) <i>Sustainable management of industrial zones - GEDZI Project:</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> A. <i>Application of training to the leaders of the GMG (a total of 7 to 16).</i> B. <i>Each GMG leader will contribute to the carrying out of between 5 and 15 case studies.</i> C. <i>Operation of the GMG Network.</i> D. <i>Positive evaluation of the expert advice supplied by GMG leaders.</i> E. <i>Availability of a plan for replication in Morocco and Algeria.</i> 4) <i>CP/RAC Events: Reduction in waste generation, energy consumption, waste materials, promotion of local and ecological consumption bodies, others.</i> 5) <i>BREF translated to Spanish and sent to the Spanish Ministry of the Environment (MIMAM).</i>
<p>Main achievements</p> <p>125. In the field of best available techniques (BAT), best environmental practices (BEP) and cleaner technologies (CT), the CP/RAC plans to carry out various activities during 2008 to disseminate their application.</p> <p>126. It will participate in two coastal area management programmes (CAMP): one in Morocco and the other in Spain (Almeria), in collaboration with the Mediterranean Action Plan PAP/RAC Centre, with which it already has two agreements signed on this matter. The participation of the CP/RAC in CAMP Morocco consists of disseminating good housekeeping practices in the hotel sector, during a seminar on sustainable tourism, which will be organized within the framework of the project, during the second semester of 2008. To this end, the Centre will present its guidelines for good housekeeping practices in hotels. In the framework of CAMP Spain, the CP/RAC will prepare a preliminary study on industrial weaving in the project area (Almeria). In order to carry out these planned activities, the Centre is in contact with the PAP/RAC, coordinator of the activities, which will be carried out in the second half of 2008, according to the development of the projects indicated by the PAP/RAC agenda.</p> <p>127. The CP/RAC will also establish guidelines in order for the events it organises, and in particular the logistics, to be undertaken in a more environmentally sound manner. In this regard, the Centre met with the UNEP representative responsible for projects related to green procurement. Ideas and useful contacts were exchanged for the greening of meetings and events.</p> <p>128. This project, which began last year, aims to strengthen Tunisia's capacities for the sustainable development of industrial estates in the country. To that end, and with the support of an international coach, the object of this activity is to train 6 industrial estate managers, following a specific methodology, called GEDZI method, developed by UNEP and GTZ, together with other prominent stakeholders.</p>	

129. During March, a meeting was organized with the Tunisian consultants as well as the managers of the industrial estates involved; its purpose was to resolve specific problems encountered during the application of the previously established action plans, using a method called "action support group".
130. At the end of this meeting, a reception was organized with the institutions involved in the project.
131. During April, the second of the four training sessions planned in the GEDZI project was organized. During this training, new practical tools for the sound management of industrial estates were presented. The managers presented the initial actions taken in their respective industrial estates, proposed new ideas for the resolution of problems/conflicts and established new action plans.
132. At the end of this training, the local consultants will be able to replicate the GEDZI method on other Tunisian industrial estates. Within the framework of the project, the creation of a network of industrial estate managers in Tunisia is planned, along with the publication of at least 30 case studies, which will gather together the actions taken on each of the participating estates.
133. The replication of this project in other Mediterranean countries, specifically in Algeria and Morocco, is planned for the end of 2008 and 2009.
134. Sound management of industrial estates is an essential step for providing companies with incentives to apply more sustainable management of resources.
135. The project is co-financed by the German agency GTZ and has the support of CITET (Centre International des Technologies de l'Environnement de Tunis), Tunisia.

Constraints and Lessons Learnt

Recommendations/suggestions

Objective 8	<i>Product-directed tools (eco-labelling, green purchasing, etc.), corporate social responsibility</i>
Expected outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>To raise awareness of the opportunities related to eco-labelling among relevant stakeholders.</i> - <i>To increase sustainability in the Syrian textile sector.</i> - <i>Increased interest in the textile industry on European Eco-labelling, its procedure, criteria, and the linked forms of market opportunities.</i>
MAP Components and/or other partners involved	<i>Syria</i>
Indicators/ achievements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Number of companies giving a positive evaluation to the information transmitted during the workshop.</i> - <i>Measures adopted for the dissemination of eco-labelling.</i>

<p>Main achievements</p> <p>136. This activity consists of examining which tools currently exist, from the point of view and approach of the product. These tools constitute a connection between sustainable consumption and production; they should be able to help the consumer to choose products manufactured according to more sustainable criteria and provide producers with an incentive to adopt these tools in their products and business practices.</p> <p>137. Within this aim, the organization of a project to promote eco-labelling in the Syrian textile industry has been planned, in accordance with the request of the Syrian Focal Point. To this end, contact has been made with UNEP, which is developing the project "Enabling developing countries to seize eco-label opportunities - Capacity building and technical assistance for industries and governments in developing economies". Likewise, the CP/RAC has met with those responsible for eco-labelling at the European Commission's Environment DG.</p> <p>138. Within the project, a seminar in Syria has been planned by mutual agreement with MED POL, taking advantage of a parallel seminar held jointly by both institutions, and thus making the most of possible synergies. It has been decided to schedule both activities for November 2008.</p>
<p>Constraints and Lessons Learnt</p>
<p>Recommendations/suggestions</p>

<p>Objective 9</p>	<p>Promotion of sustainable lifestyles</p>
<p>Expected outputs</p>	<p><i>To raise public awareness on the manner in which their consumption practices affect the environment (specifically, climate change) to activate more sustainable consumption criteria and lifestyles.</i></p> <p><i>Preparation and dissemination of awareness-raising material and campaigns on Sustainable Consumption (SC) and lifestyles based on the SC Action Plan and the dissemination plan for SC journals prepared for the CP/RAC by ECODES.</i></p>
<p>MAP Components and/or other partners involved</p>	<p><i>All Contracting Parties and the International Community.</i></p>
<p>Indicators/ achievements</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Creation of material on SC.</i> - <i>Dissemination of material among target groups (representatives of civil society, consumers, young people, etc.).</i> - <i>Comments from agents and institutions taking part in the public awareness campaign.</i> - <i>Increased profile of the CP/RAC as a promoter of SC in the Mediterranean Region.</i> - <i>Dissemination to target public.</i> - <i>Increased awareness on the part of the public regarding the manner in which their consumption practices affect the environment (specifically, climate change).</i>

<p>Main achievements</p> <p>139. With the aim of reducing personal energy consumption, the generation of waste resulting from the lifestyles of individuals, water consumption and other actions in everyday life that have an impact on the environment, as well as the social and economic development of societies, the CP/RAC is to implement a number of actions aimed at promoting more sustainable lifestyles. These include various publications and dissemination material that promote more sustainable practices in everyday consumer habits.</p> <p>140. To date, representatives of various organizations and programmes involved in encouraging sustainable consumption in the Mediterranean Region have been contacted (UNEP/DTIE, Youthxchange, LOLA Project, ECODES, CEEnetwork) in order to learn about their main initiatives with a view to establishing possible paths of cooperation, either to reinforce the dissemination of existing initiatives in the Mediterranean Region, or to support new initiatives implemented by the Centre to increase awareness among the Mediterranean population.</p>
<p>Constraints and Lessons Learnt</p>
<p>Recommendations/suggestions</p>

<p>Objective 10</p>	<p>Organization of a parallel event</p>
<p>Expected outputs</p>	<p><i>To include consumption in the approaches toward agreements on climate change, in view of having obtained a system with the participation of all countries with the effectiveness for reducing greenhouse gas emissions on a world level.</i></p> <p><i>To publicise, as far as possible, the importance of including consumption approaches in the agreement on climate change.</i></p>
<p>MAP Components and/or other partners involved</p>	<p><i>All Contracting Parties and the International Community.</i></p>
<p>Indicators/ achievements</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Joint work with the relevant interested parties.</i> - <i>Holding of a parallel event.</i> - <i>Access to the communication media and impact on them.</i> - <i>Introduction of matters related to consumption into debates on climate change.</i>
<p>Main achievements</p> <p>141. A Parallel Event is proposed within the framework of the next United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP14), which is to take place in Poznan, Poland, from 1 to 12 December 2008. The general objective of this meeting is to pave the way for the post-Kyoto agreements, which should be reached at COP15, which will take place in Denmark in 2009. As previously stated, debate over the next two years must lead to the approval, at COP15 in 2009 (Denmark), of a global agreement with commitments to reducing emissions that is more ambitious than the Kyoto Protocol.</p> <p>142. In this context, the CP/RAC has identified the organization of a specific event as a key aspect in dealing with the subject of the final consumption of countries and their associated climate footprint, and how this new approach of analysing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions can constitute an important tool for adjusting and negotiating the objectives of reducing emissions in different countries, facilitating the inclusion of developing countries.</p>	

<p>143. The event will serve as a vehicle to present studies on the carbon footprint associated with consumption which the CP/RAC has recently carried out; in short: groundbreaking work on an international scale. In this respect, it will be of great strategic value to involve in the design and organization of the event partners of considerable reputation and experience in this subject.</p> <p>144. Relevant data on consumption and climate change have been identified, as have institutions carrying out pioneering work in this field, and the international experts identified during the studies on carbon footprint associated with consumption undertaken by the CP/RAC. With this, a provisional programme with which to work has been defined. Furthermore, various key stakeholders identified for their participation or involvement in the parallel event have been contacted: OECD, European Environment Agency, Technical University of Trondheim (meetings in April 2008), as well as the UNEP Consumption and Production Area. Likewise, contacts have been initiated with the Catalan and Spanish climate change offices.</p>
Constraints and Lessons Learnt
Recommendations/suggestions

Objective 11	<i>Dissemination of consumption and climate change</i>
Expected outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To disseminate consumption as an approach in climate change policies. - To disseminate the conclusions of the CP/RAC in the setting of consumption linked to climate change. - To ensure that the Centre attains solid leadership and recognition in the field, at both Mediterranean and international levels.
MAP Components and/or other partners involved	<i>All Contracting Parties and the International Community.</i>
Indicators/ achievements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Press coverage - Participation in fora
Main achievements	
<p>145. With the short-term perspective of the Poznan COP (2008) and the Denmark COP (2009) to disseminate the approach of consumption linked to climate change and the work of the CP/RAC, and to position the Centre as a leading actor in this area, the CP/RAC will make its work public in fora with relevant target audiences. At the same time, it will implement a personalised strategy with the media with the aim of causing the greatest possible impact on the international debate surrounding commitments to reducing emissions post-Kyoto and furthering the penetration of the issue in Mediterranean policies.</p> <p>146. Initial contacts have been made for the possible participation of prominent experts in the Mediterranean Roundtable on Sustainable Consumption and Production (provisional date and location: October, Barcelona), in order to disseminate the ongoing studies on consumption and climate change. Likewise, preliminary contacts have been established to organize a possible event for dissemination of the results of the work carried out by the CP/RAC.</p>	
Constraints and Lessons Learnt	
Recommendations/suggestions	

Objective 12	<i>Study of consumption and climate change</i>
Expected outputs	<i>To make available the results of the study on the analysis of consumption trends in the Mediterranean Region, for wide ranging dissemination (see below).</i>
MAP Components and/or other partners involved	<i>All Contracting Parties and the International Community.</i>
Indicators/ achievements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Publication of report and leaflet.</i> - <i>Dissemination in the setting of climate change.</i> - <i>Dissemination during the Round Table on SCP in the Mediterranean Region.</i>
Main achievements	
<p>147. In view of organising the Parallel Event within the framework of the Poznan COP, the CP/RAC proposes the drawing up of a strategic report to be presented within that context. The purpose of this report will be to bring together the main analyses undertaken by the CP/RAC in the sphere of consumption and climate change, presenting the trends in the Mediterranean Region, recommendations and possible implications concerning international policies in this field.</p> <p>148. Contacts have been made to design a possible new line of publications associated with this topic, which would included the publication of the study on consumption and climate change, which is currently being prepared.</p>	
Constraints and Lessons Learnt	
Recommendations/suggestions	

Objective 13	<i>Study on consumption and transport</i>
Expected outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>To raise awareness, with the aim of incorporating consumption, with transport and forms of carbon emissions, into climate change policies.</i> - <i>To make an innovative contribution to the world community for presentation at COP 14.</i> - <i>To gather more extensive knowledge on the impact of transport and CO2 in the Spanish case, to enable more efficient national policies on GHG emission reduction.</i>
MAP Components and/or other partners involved	<i>All Contracting Parties and the International Community.</i>
Indicators/ achievements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Publication of technical material.</i> - <i>Dissemination in relevant fora.</i> - <i>Increased awareness of countries and relevant interested parties on how consumption practices, associated with transport and other forms of carbon emissions, affect the environment (specifically, climate change).</i>

<p>Main achievements</p> <p>149. With the aim of further increasing the added value of the work undertaken by the Centre and making an especially relevant and technically innovative contribution within the framework of the Parallel Event, during the Poznan COP, it is proposed to develop a carbon or climate footprint that integrates aspects that have yet to be researched in detail.</p> <p>150. To date, experts have been identified to carry out the activity, which includes a Spanish case study, as well as methodological aspects to incorporate subjects on which few studies have been made to date regarding consumption-related emissions. These are principally, international transport, technological differentials and, as far as possible, fields which have been studied even less, such as changes in land use. This is currently in the phase of definition and contracting of the activity with the identified experts. Furthermore, contacts have been established with stakeholders who have the relevant information required to perform the aforementioned tasks, and with whom work approaches can be compared.</p>
<p>Constraints and Lessons Learnt</p>
<p>Recommendations/suggestions</p>

<p>Objective 14</p>	<p><i>National consumption and climate change</i></p>
<p>Expected outputs</p>	<p><i>To develop a specific section on consumption and climate change for the Spanish Strategy on Sustainable Consumption and Production.</i></p>
<p>MAP Components and/or other partners involved</p>	<p><i>Spain, although the experience gained will serve to continue extending the work area in Mediterranean countries.</i></p>
<p>Indicators/ achievements</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Section developed</i> - <i>Definition of policies to deal with climate change from a consumption perspective.</i>
<p>Main achievements</p> <p>151. In 2008, the Spanish Ministry of the Environment is to prepare the Spanish Strategy on Sustainable Consumption and Production. In this context, it informed the CP/RAC of its interest in the Centre collaborating in the preparation of this strategy or in some of its sections, given the work the Centre is carrying out and its mission: promoting sustainable consumption and production.</p> <p>152. Based on the work carried out by the CP/RAC, particularly in the field of consumption and climate change, referring to the specific case of Spain and, taking into account the considerable innovation related to this field of work, it is proposed to prepare one of the sections of the Spanish Strategy, covering the area of consumption related to climate change. This project, in addition to capitalising on the work already undertaken by the Centre, will serve to increase the Centre's practical experience in the field in order to apply it to the planned theoretical studies, thus increasing the CP/RAC's levels of experience in consumption and climate change, strengthening it as an expert body at both practical and theoretical levels.</p> <p>153. A possible contribution to the Spanish Strategy for Sustainable Consumption and Production, on consumption and climate change, has been defined, based on past and ongoing work on the Spanish case studied by the CP/RAC. This activity will be progressively defined with the Spanish Ministry of the Environment.</p>	
<p>Constraints and Lessons Learnt</p>	
<p>Recommendations/suggestions</p>	

Objective 15	<i>EC-MAP work programme</i>
Expected outputs	<i>To apply the CE-MAP Work Programme, in line with the following priorities from point 7 "Cooperation in cleaner technology".</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - IPPC. - Eco-labelling. - Sustainable management of industrial estates (Circular Economy).
MAP Components and/or other partners involved	<i>All Contracting Parties.</i>
Indicators/ achievements	<i>The complete application of the programme.</i>
Main achievements	
<p>154. This activity consists in carrying out the planned actions in the framework of the joint work programme between the European Commission and the Mediterranean Action Plan, specifically the activities concerning the CP/RAC. All this is done within the framework of the European Horizon 2020 initiative, which aims to give support and join forces with those initiatives already existing in the Mediterranean Region, providing them with fresh impetus to achieve the objective of decontaminating the Region.</p> <p>155. More specifically, the actions it is proposed that they should tackle, following definition and agreement with the European Commission, focus on promoting the best available techniques included in the BREF documents (Best Available Techniques Reference Document), the IPPC approach, and training and educational activities. Depending on the contacts and definition of activities with the European Commission, the possibility of also including questions on the PRTR (Pollutant Release and Transfer Register) will be studied.</p>	
Constraints and Lessons Learnt	
Recommendations/suggestions	

2.2 Greco Initiative

Main Goal: *The objective of the GRECO Initiative, launched by the CP/RAC in 2007, is to contribute to the sustainable development of the Mediterranean Region, showing governments, institutions and the private sector the economic and environmental benefits of and the opportunities that arise from applying cleaner production. A further goal is to make it easier for the private and public sectors to work together in this matter. Below, is a set of activities planned for 2008 in the framework of the GRECO Initiative, together with a description of the work performed up to May of this year.*

Objective 16	<i>GRECO report on green competitiveness and roadshows</i>
Expected outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>To contribute to the environment, by prioritising decision making by governmental authorities, the institutions of Mediterranean Region and international fora; and in the private sector, by highlighting the economic benefits arising from new opportunities in green competitiveness.</i> - <i>To facilitate the process for developing public-private associations based on green competitiveness.</i> - <i>To ensure national commitment to the application of GRECO in SMEs.</i>

MAP Components and/or other partners involved	<i>All Contracting Parties.</i>
Indicators/ achievements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Report published.</i> - <i>CD-ROM published.</i> - <i>Leaflet published.</i> - <i>Number of countries in which travelling presentations were made (2 countries).</i> - <i>Number of SMEs that have incorporated Cleaner Production (CP) mechanisms.</i> - <i>Number of institutions in those countries which receive techniques and institutional support.</i> - <i>Increased awareness of the opportunities of eco-management in the public and private sectors.</i>
Main achievements	
<p>156. In order to attain the general objective of the Initiative, a series of activities are envisaged, among which the most noteworthy is the publication of a report on green competitiveness, analysing the results of one hundred case studies of Mediterranean companies that have applied cleaner production methods and eco-efficiency. These case studies have been gathered by the CP/RAC over the years it has been operating in the Mediterranean Region. A study on Green Competitiveness in the Mediterranean Region has been carried out, seeking to draw lessons from 100 successful cases of cleaner production. This study analyses the 100 Med Clean case studies. The analysis focuses on the technical, economic and environmental data related to the implementation of cleaner production, and shows the huge environmental benefits and potential available for Mediterranean companies, regardless of their size.</p> <p>157. In relation to these activities, a presentation was given in Turkey (March, 2008) in which experiences on Green Competitiveness were recounted by a variety of stakeholders, with the aim of creating favourable conditions for allowing cleaner production to spread throughout the Mediterranean Region.</p> <p>158. Finally, the CP/RAC participated in the organization of <i>Expo CO₂</i> (Barcelona, April 2008). For this event, the Centre prepared and published a leaflet on energy efficiency in the Mediterranean Region, with data from the Med Clean case studies, including reductions in CO₂ emissions.</p>	
Constraints and Lessons Learnt	
Recommendations/suggestions	

Objective 17	GRECO Strategy
Expected outputs	<p><i>To successfully promote the generation, dissemination and transfer of CP in technological interventions, by means of technical assistance.</i></p> <p><i>To promote green competitiveness in SMEs through public-private associations.</i></p> <p><i>To improve the understanding of green competitiveness.</i></p>
MAP Components and/or other partners involved	<i>All Contracting Parties.</i>

Indicators/ achievements	<i>Drawing up of a General Plan for GRECO Activities. General plan for activities prepared. Presentation of the GRECO Business Plan for BusinessMed entrepreneurs. Preparation of a list of contacts.</i>
<p>Main achievements</p> <p>159. A key part of the GRECO Initiative is to define a specific programme of work to ensure the success of the initiative. To this end, a number of activities have been planned for 2008, involving the relevant stakeholders, to achieve the proper application of the programme. Among these activities, the GRECO Initiative Work Plan has been drawn up, along with the presentation of the GRECO Initiative Work Plan for Mediterranean entrepreneurs.</p> <p>160. To ensure that green competitiveness is widespread in the Mediterranean, the CP/RAC has involved the Mediterranean business sector in the project ever since it started planning The GRECO Initiative. As a result, a collaboration agreement between the CP/RAC and BusinessMed (Union of Mediterranean Confederations of Enterprises) was signed in 2007, and a workshop "Towards Sustainable Development" was organized in Egypt at the end of 2007.</p> <p>161. This close cooperation between both parties has helped to establish the lines of work and specific activities to be carried out in 2008 along with the Mediterranean business sector.</p> <p>162. In addition, the GRECO business plan was presented during the annual meeting of BusinessMed, held in Egypt in February. One of the results of this cooperation between the CP/RAC and BusinessMed is a network of contacts from the business sector.</p> <p>163. Furthermore, with a view to creating an atmosphere that is conducive to disseminating cleaner production in the Mediterranean Region, financial institutions have been involved in the GRECO initiative. This will make it possible to design a financial instrument for the Mediterranean Region which will help in the application of cleaner production techniques in small and medium-sized enterprises.</p>	
Constraints and Lessons Learnt	
Recommendations/suggestions	

Objective 18	<i>GRECO UMCE-BusinessMed Project</i>
Expected outputs	<i>Promote green competitiveness by the establishment of partnership and joint activities.</i>
MAP Components and/or other partners involved	<i>All Contracting Parties.</i>
Indicators/ achievements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Project carried out.</i> - <i>UMCE members trained</i> - <i>Materials disseminated (GRECO/revista técnica...)</i>

<p>Main achievements</p> <p>164. After signing the collaboration agreement with UMCE-BusinessMed, the CP/RAC has carried out a number of activities, participating in and co-organising meetings to publicise the application of cleaner techniques in the industries and economic sector of the Mediterranean Region.</p> <p>165. Within the framework of the collaboration agreement between the CP/RAC and BusinessMed, a number of joint activities have been planned, along with the definition of a specific project with UMCE-BusinessMed on aspects of training and technical assistance for its members, and which is to be carried out during 2008. As of the end of May 2008, possible projects to be carried out with BusinessMed were being identified, in order to be implemented during the second semester of 2008.</p>
<p>Constraints and Lessons Learnt</p>
<p>Recommendations/suggestions</p>

<p>Objective 19</p>	<p><i>GRECO Disseminating the report in the MAP</i></p>
<p>Expected outputs</p>	<p><i>Promote green competitiveness by the presentation of the report to MAP and other organizations.</i></p> <p><i>Contribute to the diffusion and awareness of cleaner production to enterprises and Governments</i></p>
<p>MAP Components and/or other partners involved</p>	<p><i>All Contracting Parties</i></p>
<p>Indicators/ achievements</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Number of attendees to the presentations</i> - <i>Number of Fora where the results from the report have been presented.</i>
<p>Main achievements</p> <p>166. One of the main goals of the GRECO Initiative is to publicise and to raise maximum awareness of the economic benefits that applying environmental techniques can bring to Mediterranean businesses, reducing the mistaken, and still deep-rooted, perception that incorporating environmental aspects into business is an outlay and a burden. In order for companies to perceive the environment as a source of opportunity, as well as governments (with the aim of them designing public policies and steps to foster the application of cleaner production), it is essential to publicise the results of the aforementioned studies.</p> <p>167. Thus, the dissemination was undertaken in the setting of the most important fora for the Initiative. More specifically, one of these was the presentation of results during the Conference of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention (Almeria, 15-18 January 2008). Another forum in which the results of the report were presented was Clean Equity, a conference for emerging environmental technologies held in Monaco (20-21 February 2008), with the presence of the most renowned representatives of the private sector at world level and parallel to the Meeting of the Board of Directors of the United Nations Environment Programme. Finally, GRECO was also highly prominent in the Conference on Resource Efficiency (23-25 April, Paris), organized by the OECD and UNEP.</p>	
<p>Constraints and Lessons Learnt</p>	
<p>Recommendations/suggestions</p>	

2.3 Rational Management of Chemicals

Main Goal: *With regard to 2008, the objectives of the Rational Management of Chemicals Area of the CP/RAC are as follows:*

- *To encourage the sound management of chemicals and to foster pollution prevention in line with the Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea Against Pollution from Land-Based Sources and Activities.*
- *To put the Stockholm Convention into practice.*
- *To encourage the environmentally sound management of persistent organic pollutants (POPs) and heavy metals.*

Objective 20	<i>Defining requirements and priorities following the designation of the CP/RAC as a Regional Centre under the terms of the Stockholm Convention</i>
Expected outputs	<i>Preparation of a work plan to define those activities to be implemented during 2008 and 2009. Preparation of the work plan for the two-year period 2010/2011.</i>
MAP Components and/or other partners involved	<i>The Centre itself</i>
Indicators/ achievements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Approval of the work plan.</i> - <i>Presentation of the work plan and reports to the secretariat of the Stockholm Convention.</i>
Main achievements	
<p>168. Initial contact has been made for the preparation of a study on potential actions to be taken with regard to the obligations contained in the Stockholm Convention concerning emissions, stocks, monitoring and awareness raising. Thus, the aim is to pave the way for the establishment of action synergies with the Spanish Ministry of the Environment and the Spanish POP Reference Centre.</p>	
Constraints and Lessons Learnt	
Recommendations/suggestions	

Objective 21	<i>Promoting the collection and treatment of industrial oil</i>
Expected outputs	<i>Regional seminar on the collection and treatment of used industrial oils. Providing regional training in the subject.</i>
MAP Components and/or other partners involved	<i>Cyprus, Greece, Italy, Malta, Slovenia - 2008</i>
Indicators/ achievements	<i>Holding of seminar, participation.</i>
Main achievements	
<p>169. This activity was selected from among the national priorities suggested for the Mediterranean countries by 2010 (NAP) due to its relevance for a significant number of countries and the pressing nature of its implementation.</p>	

<p>170. The countries that have expressed an interest in plans for the collection and/or treatment of oil are Montenegro, Turkey, Algeria, Croatia, Egypt, Lebanon, Malta, Morocco, Serbia, Slovenia, Syria, Cyprus, Greece, Israel, the Palestinian Authority, Italy, Libya and Tunisia.</p> <p>171. A regional seminar is to be held on the subject of the collection and treatment of industrial oil in collaboration with MED POL, the focal points and the networks of Mediterranean industrial associations UMCE-BUSINESSMED and ASCAME, aimed at ministers and business association representatives. Contact has already been made with MED POL, which has financed a pilot project for the Management of Used Mineral Oils in Bosnia and Herzegovina.</p> <p>172. To carry out the seminar, which is planned to be held in Tarragona (Spain), contact has been made with the Waste Agency of Catalonia and with independent experts.</p>
Constraints and Lessons Learnt
Recommendations/suggestions

Objective 22	<i>Project for the sound management of waste containing PCBs generated by electricity companies</i>
Expected outputs	<i>To assist Mediterranean Countries in Environmentally Sound Management of PCB in National Electricity Companies</i>
MAP Components and/or other partners involved	<i>All Contracting Parties.</i>
Indicators/ achievements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>MoU</i> - <i>Experts contracted.</i>
Main achievements\	
<p>173. The project “Environmentally Sound Management of Equipment, Stocks and Wastes Containing or Contaminated by PCBs in National Electricity Companies of Mediterranean Countries” is part of the project launched by UNEP/MAP-MEDU, MED POL and several other international organizations, the “Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Large Marine Ecosystem Regional Component: Implementation of agreed actions for the protection of the environmental resources of the Mediterranean Sea and its coastal areas”.</p> <p>174. The CP/RAC is involved in subsections 2.3.3 “Raising awareness of the importance of environmentally sound management of equipment containing PCBs” and 2.3.4 “Technical capacity for the environmentally sound management of equipment containing PCBs”.</p> <p>175. The activities are to be implemented in Lebanon, Albania, Egypt, Libya and Syria, and the proposed calendar for activities in the project extends to 2011.</p>	
Constraints and Lessons Learnt	
Recommendations/suggestions	

Objective 23	<i>Strategy document on mobilising financial resources and instruments, including private, national and international resources, for implementation of the Stockholm Convention into action</i>
Expected outputs	<i>Preparation of a strategy document on resource mobilisation and financial instruments, including private, national and international resources for the Stockholm Convention.</i>
MAP Components and/or other partners involved	<i>All Contracting Parties.</i>
Indicators/ achievements	<i>Publication of the document</i>
Main achievements	
<p>176. This activity involves drawing up a document on the strategy for mobilising financial resources and instruments for putting national action plans on POPs into action.</p> <p>177. To date, contact has been made with experts for the definition of the document, based on the document prepared by Spain.</p>	
Constraints and Lessons Learnt	
Recommendations/suggestions	

Objective 24	<i>Preparation of the MAP contribution to the 2nd International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM-II)</i>
Expected outputs	<i>Presentation of the MAP contribution to the 2nd International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM-II)</i>
MAP Components and/or other partners involved	<i>All Contracting Parties.</i>
Indicators/ achievements	<i>Publication of the report</i>
Main achievements	
<p>178. In order to prepare the participation of the CP/RAC in the Conference (2009) with the dissemination of activities implemented by the countries making up the MAP for the implementation of the SAICM, work is currently underway on adapting the questionnaire used to prepare the report on the "State of Clean Production in the Mediterranean Region" in order for it to be sent to the NFPs.</p> <p>179. The activity consists of distributing these questionnaires to NFPs in order to be able to coordinate the presentation of reports to the Conference and to establish priorities that require coordination measures.</p>	
Constraints and Lessons Learnt	
Recommendations/suggestions	

Objective 25	<i>Preparation of National Profiles</i>
Expected outputs	<i>All the countries support the preparation of national profiles for SAICM subject to the availability of funds.</i>
MAP Components and/or other partners involved	<i>Non SAICM countries: B&H, Greece, Lebanon, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Turkey. Best candidates: Greece, Turkey, Montenegro.</i>
Indicators/ achievements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Quality profiles</i> - <i>Agreements signed</i>
Main achievements	
<p>180. The National Profiles for the management of chemical products should facilitate coordination between ministries, access to and the exchange of information, the participation of the stakeholders involved, the coordinated establishment of priorities and the integration of activities required for the management of chemical products within national processes of development planning.</p> <p>181. The aim of this activity is to prepare profiles for Greece and Turkey by contracting experts from these countries, which has already been done. These are the NFPs in Turkey (Ahmet Rifat Ilhan), Montenegro (Jelena Knežević) and Greece (Dimitris Tsotsos).</p>	
Constraints and Lessons Learnt	
Recommendations/suggestions	

Objective 26	<i>Implementation of the UNEP Programme for International Action on mercury and other heavy metals and a community strategy, as and when necessary</i>
Expected outputs	<i>Monitoring of Mercury and other heavy metals in Spain. Preparation of the monitoring study of Spain.</i>
MAP Components and/or other partners involved	<i>Spain.</i>
Indicators/ achievements	- <i>To attain a high-quality report</i>
Main achievements	
<p>182. Inventories of the use, consumption and environmental discharge of mercury, together with the data and tools required to analyse potential risks to humans and the environment, are some of the research and information requirements at national level detected in the UNEP Global Mercury Assessment (2002).</p> <p>183. The CP/RAC has produced the document <i>Estrategia del mercurio y otros metales pesados en España [Strategy for Mercury and Other Heavy Metals in Spain]</i> (2007), which studies the use of mercury in the most relevant industrial sectors and provides an analysis of "hot spots", as well as making proposals for action.</p>	

<p>184. In addition, the preparation is underway for a study which gathers data on the environmental monitoring and surveillance of these metals throughout Spain from the different regional governments and organizations. A comparative study of the resulting data and the official data for activities that may generate heavy metals is also being prepared.</p> <p>185. This study will be used as a basis for the preparation of national studies in the other Mediterranean countries, due to begin in 2009.</p>
<p>Constraints and Lessons Learnt</p>
<p>Recommendations/suggestions</p>

<p>Objective 27</p>	<p><i>Regional REACH seminar</i></p>
<p>Expected outputs</p>	<p><i>To hold a regional seminar on the presentation and implementation of REACH.</i></p>
<p>MAP Components and/or other partners involved</p>	<p><i>All MAP no-EU countries.</i></p>
<p>Indicators/ achievements</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Seminar organized.</i> - <i>Number of participants.</i>
<p>Main achievements</p> <p>186. REACH is the new EU regulation on chemicals and their safe use. It is important for companies within the EU involved in exports to be aware of this regulation in order for them to increase their competitiveness and maintain their market share.</p> <p>187. This activity will involve the presentation of the REACH system to those Contracting Parties that are not EU Member States. In principle, initial contact would be made with Israel, Morocco and Tunisia through the NFP and the networks of Mediterranean industrial associations UMCE-BusinessMed and ASCAME, with the NGO MIO-ESCO, which has expressed an interest in taking part. The aim would be to organize a seminar in each of these countries that are interested.</p> <p>188. Contact has been made with two consultancy firms, B&B in Barcelona and EPPA in Brussels. These companies specialise in the REACH regulation. A request for collaboration has been made to the European Commission through the Environment Director-General, Mogens Carl.</p>	
<p>Constraints and Lessons Learnt</p>	
<p>Recommendations/suggestions</p>	

2.4 Strategy and Communication

Main Goal: *With regard to 2008, the CP/RAC is considering implementing its communication strategy not only among the activity centres belonging to the MAP, but also including institutions and the public in general. To this end, the lines of action and the media considered in advance have been reinforced, and new milestones to be reached have been included.*

Objective 28	CP News
Expected outputs	<i>To disseminate CP/RAC activities among the NFPs and Mediterranean community</i>
MAP Components and/or other partners involved	<i>All Contracting Parties.</i>
Indicators/ achievements	<i>Satisfactory publication of news, finished CP News sent out and available from the website.</i>
Main achievements	
<p>189. The <i>CP news</i> bulletin is the CP/RAC's oldest communication tool, and has been shown to be one of the most effective for disseminating the most important activities of the Centre and of the MAP. <i>CP News</i> was redesigned in 2006 to give it a much more attractive, dynamic and readable format.</p> <p>190. Up until 2007, three bulletins were published a year, but four quarterly editions are planned for 2008.</p> <p>191. During the first semester of 2008, editions 27 and 28 of <i>CP News</i> have been prepared, translated and typeset.</p>	
Constraints and Lessons Learnt	
Recommendations/suggestions	

Objective 29	Publication of 2007 Annual Report
Expected outputs	<i>Give a general and detailed vision of the activities carried out by CP RAC.</i>
MAP Components and/or other partners involved	<i>The centre itself.</i>
Indicators/ achievements	<i>Preparation, translation, typesetting and publication of the report. Dissemination thereof.</i>
Main achievements	
<p>192. On the basis of structuring and raising awareness of the activities carried out by the CP/RAC during 2007, an annual report has been drawn up bringing together all the essential information required to keep abreast of the day-to-day work of the Centre. This report helps to analyse the goals attained during the annual period and to set new objectives.</p>	
Constraints and Lessons Learnt	
Recommendations/suggestions	

Objective 30	<i>Progress report January-May 2008</i>
Expected outputs	<i>Give a general vision of the activities carried out by CP/RAC during the 5 first months of 2008.</i>
MAP Components and/or other partners involved	<i>CP/RAC</i>
Indicators/ achievements	<i>Availability of the document for distribution among interested stakeholders.</i>
Main achievements	
<p>193. Taking the 2008 working plan as a starting point, the aim has been to analyse the progress of the different activities proposed for the current year during the period January to May by means of the present compilation of information. In this manner, the CP/RAC can, at the same time, asses the impetus taken in these first five months and draw up new lines of action or attaining agreements in line with the needs that are revealed.</p>	
Constraints and Lessons Learnt	
Recommendations/suggestions	

Objective 31	<i>Publication of 2007 technical journal</i>
Expected outputs	<i>To spread technical and scientific articles on CP and sustainable development</i>
MAP Components and/or other partners involved	<i>All Contracting Parties, institutions related with the environment and with the promotion of sustainable production and consumption.</i>
Indicators/ achievements	<i>Publication and dissemination of the 2007 technical journal.</i>
Main achievements	
<p>194. The technical journal CP/RAC 07 was published in the first semester of 2008. For the first time, the publication featured the CP/RAC's role as a promoter not only of clean production, but also of sustainable consumption. Worthy of special mention are those articles presenting the GRECO Initiative and the new approach proposal for measuring CO₂ emissions with final consumption instead of with production.</p>	
Constraints and Lessons Learnt	
Recommendations/suggestions	

3. Sea-based Pollution (REMPEC)

Objective 1	<i>To assist the Mediterranean coastal States in ratifying, transposing, implementing and enforcing international regulations to prevent, reduce and control pollution of the marine environment from ships.</i>
Expected outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>relevant international conventions ratified</i> • <i>implementation of the SAFEMED Project in ten euroMed Mediterranean partners</i> • <i>implementation of the GloBallast Partnerships Project in the Mediterranean region and development of a Mediterranean Strategy on Ship's Ballast Water Management</i> • <i>to set up a network of judicial authorities regarding illicit discharges at sea</i> • <i>to conduct a marine pollution monitoring operation at sea with several States</i> • <i>submission to give effect to the special area status of the Mediterranean Sea under MARPOL Annex V prepared</i> • <i>national capacities developed</i>
MAP Components and/or other partners involved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>SPA/RAC,</i> • <i>IMO,</i> • <i>Croatia,</i> • <i>Turkey</i> • <i>EC and EMSA</i> • <i>IMO ITCP</i>
Indicators/ achievements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>organization of GloBallast Partnerships Project activities in the Mediterranean region</i> • <i>organization of SAFEMED Project activities</i> • <i>number of Contracting Parties having designated a contact point for the network of judicial authorities</i> • <i>number of replies received to the proposal of a marine pollution monitoring operation at sea: 3/7</i> • <i>MARPOL Annex V special area status for the Mediterranean Sea enters into effect.</i> • <i>training activity on preparedness and response organized</i>
Up to date results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>number of Contracting Parties having designated a contact point for the network of judicial authorities: 2/22</i> • <i>number of replies received to the proposal of a marine pollution monitoring operation at sea: 3/7</i> • <i>MARPOL Annex V special area status for the Mediterranean Sea to enter into effect on the 1 May 2009</i> • <i>Approximately two thirds of the SAFEMED Project tasks have been implemented.</i>

Main achievements*Activities:*

1. *provide technical advice and assistance for the ratification of relevant international maritime conventions*
2. *assist the Mediterranean coastal States in the field of prosecuting offenders of regulations on illicit discharges at sea*
3. *assist Mediterranean coastal States to prepare a submission to IMO to give effect to the special area status of the Mediterranean Sea under MARPOL Annex V*
4. *organize and/or support the organization of a National Training Course on preparedness for and response to marine pollution from ships*

195. The Centre is currently implementing in the Mediterranean region the GloBallast Partnership Project, which is a five year project funded by GEF and aims at facilitating the ratification of the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ship's Ballast Water and Sediments, 2004 and at adopting a regional Mediterranean Strategy on Ship's Ballast Water Management . An Introductory Course on Ballast Water Management Issues was successfully run in Alexandria in April 2008. As explained during the 15th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties, not all the Contracting Parties are concerned by this GEF project. In particular, the EU Member States are not benefiting from the financing of the project. In order to achieve the goal of a regional implementation, ways have to be found to associate these Contracting Parties. In particular, REMPEC is preparing to liaise with the European Commission to seek its support for the involvement of the Mediterranean EU Member States.

196. During the period under review, the Centre has continued the implementation of the EC funded project on "Euromed Cooperation on Maritime Safety and Prevention of Pollution from Ships" (SAFEMED Project), with *inter alia* activities related to the implementation of the International Safety Management (ISM) Code and the International Maritime Dangerous Goods (IMDG) Code, the Voluntary IMO Member State audit Scheme, and the human element. This last activity, consisting of the organization of a Regional Seminar on the Human Element Influence on Maritime accidents, was hosted by the European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA) in Lisbon. As part of the SAFEMED Project, the Centre is also currently finalising a study on maritime traffic flows in the Mediterranean and a related GIS system on maritime traffic in the region.

197. Although there has been a strong support of the judicial representatives attending the MEDEXPOL seminar in Marseilles 2007 to set up a network of interested magistrates, despite several calls, only two Contracting Parties (Greece and Turkey) nominated a contact person.

198. The concerted aerial surveillance operation was proposed to Spain, France, Monaco, Italy, Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia in February. Today only 3 replies were received from France Italy and Morocco. These issues request inter-ministerial coordination between the Focal Points and other ministries and agencies (justice, armed forces).

199. It seems that the Focal points in some countries are not in a position to overcome these barriers difficulties. A strong support from the MAP Focal Point is needed.

200. The submission, to give effect to the special area status of the Mediterranean Sea under MARPOL Annex V prepared by REMPEC was endorsed by eighteen Contracting Parties and supported by twenty Contracting Parties during the 57th Session of IMO's Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC 57). Consequently, MEPC 57 decided that the special area status will enter into force on 1st May 2009. Consequently, for all ships, as from 1st May 2009, disposal into the Mediterranean Sea of the following is prohibited: all plastics, including but not limited to synthetic ropes, synthetic fishing nets and plastic garbage bags; and all other garbage, including paper products, rags, glass metal, bottles, crockery, dunnage, lining and packing materials.

201. REMPEC is currently preparing for the organization of a national training Course on the use of dispersant for Algeria. Unfortunately, although the present situation as regard security clearance does not prohibit the organization of such training, two of the lecturers already pre-selected, British citizens, have cancelled their participation to the training for security concerns.

202. This situation gives raise to serious concerns due to the fact that many countries in the Mediterranean Sea are subjects to the UN security clearance system. Furthermore it has been recently recalled that security clearance does not only apply to UN staff members and lecturers but also to all participants to an activity when costs of their participation is supported by the UN organization. Such a situation could lead to the postponement of training activities or higher costs if they have to be relocated in countries without security clearance request.

Constraints and Lessons Learnt

203. As explained during the 15th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties, not all the Contracting Parties are concerned by this GEF project. In particular, the EU Member States are not benefiting from the financing of the project. In order to achieve the goal of a regional implementation, ways have to be found to associate these Contracting Parties with the project.

204. The lack of coordination between the REMPEC Focal Points and other Ministries and agencies like, for example, those dealing with justice and the armed forces, is a major barrier for carrying out the concerted marine pollution aerial surveillance operation with regard to illicit discharges at sea.

205. UN security clearance requirements might lead to the postponement and/or re-scheduling of some programmed activities.

Draft Recommendations

The Bureau is invited to encourage and urge the Contracting Parties to inform the national shipowners associations about the entry into force of the Special Area Status of the Mediterranean Sea under MARPOL Annex V in order to comply with the new regulations coming into effect on 1st May 2009.

The Bureau is invited to request the Secretariat to encourage the Contracting Parties, members of the European Union, to associate themselves in the implementation of this important regional project in order to achieve the goal of a regional implementation.

Objective 2	<i>To maintain active and/or develop the level of preparedness to respond to marine pollution incidents ion the Mediterranean region.</i>
Expected outputs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>gap analysis on contingency systems in force in the region provided</i> 2. <i>assessment tool developed/identified</i> 3. <i>countries prepared to face an accident</i> 4. <i>sub-regional cooperation enhanced</i> 5. <i>strategies of response and contingency plans tested</i> 6. <i>countries prepared to deal with specific issues</i>
MAP Components and/or other partners involved	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>MOIG-IPIECA</i> 2. <i>OCIMF</i> 5. <i>EMSA</i> 6. <i>IMO OPRC-HNS Technical Group</i>

<p>Indicators/ achievements</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>organise and deliver a regional workshop on contingency planning systems in the Mediterranean region;</i> 2. <i>evaluate the capacities in terms of safety of the Mediterranean oil terminals</i> 3. <i>provide individual countries with expertise for the development, improvement and maintenance of their systems and operational arrangements</i> 4. <i>support the organization of sub-regional joint activities and meetings</i> 5. <i>assist in the organization of national/sub-regional exercises involving deployment of equipment</i> 6. <i>revise develop as appropriate, guidelines in the field of preparedness and response on specific issues (shoreline assessment, waste management, sunken oil)</i>
<p>Up to date results</p>	<p><i>Draft Croatian national contingency plan reviewed and submitted for the approval of the national State authorities</i></p>
<p>Main achievements</p> <p>206. The workshop on contingency planning systems in the Mediterranean region had to be postponed to 2009 due to the lack of commitment from MOIG during the first half of 2008. It has been recently agreed on the way forward and the industry is willing to have the workshop in Marseille on 10 and 11 May 2009, which will also give an opportunity to the representatives to attend the Interspill event together with the 3rd IMO R&D forum which will deal with HNS response.</p> <p>207. There is an interest by the industry (OCIMF) to explore a possible cooperation on the sensitive issue of safety of the Mediterranean oil terminals but no formal decision has been taken.</p> <p>208. At the request of the Croatian authorities, REMPEC reviewed the new draft of the Croatian national contingency plan, which is now submitted to the Croatian cabinet for consideration.</p> <p>209. REMPEC supported the third meeting of the operational authorities in charge of the sub-regional contingency plan for the Western Mediterranean, organized by the Tunisian authorities in Tunis on the 21-22 April.</p> <p>210. The Centre participated from its offices in Malta in the "SIMULEX 2008" organized by Morocco and attended "MEDITERRANEO 2008" exercise organized by the Spanish authorities with the participation of France, Monaco and Italy.</p> <p>211. REMPEC drafted terms of reference for the development of guidelines on oiled shoreline assessment and oily waste management which were endorsed by the IMO OPRC-HNS Technical Group. Based on these terms of reference, a draft questionnaire on oily waste management has been elaborated and circulated to several Contracting parties for test. It will soon be forwarded to all Contracting Parties. Regarding shoreline assessment, a first comparative study has been compiled and is currently being reviewed.</p>	
<p>Constraints and Lessons learnt</p>	
<p>Recommendations/suggestions</p>	

Objective 3	<i>To enhance co-operation and working relations as appropriate with relevant organizations and programmes, as well as with industry and other relevant bodies and institutions.</i>
Expected outputs	<i>results of research and development activities channelled at international level</i>
MAP Components and/or other partners involved	<i>IMO OPRC-HNS Technical Group</i>
Indicators/ achievements	<i>facilitate the participation of national and regional research institutions and industry in the relevant international fora on technical issues via the Mediterranean Technical Working Group (MTWG).</i>
Up to date results	<i>development of guidelines on oiled shoreline assessment and oily waste management included in the programme of work of IMO's OPRC-HNS Technical group.</i>
Main achievements	
<p>212. REMPEC, acting as the secretariat of the MTWG introduced the proposed guidelines to be developed on oiled shoreline assessment and oily waste management to IMO's OPRC-HNS Technical Group. The proposals were welcomed by the Group which proposed to the IMO's MEPC to include them in its programme of work. This was agreed to by IMO's MEPC.</p>	
Constraints and Lessons learnt	
Recommendations/suggestions	

Objective 4	<i>To facilitate the dissemination and exchange of information on operational, technical, scientific, legal, administrative and financial matters</i>
Expected outputs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>relevant parts of REMPEC's Regional Information System (RIS) reviewed and updated, RIS reformatted</i> 2. <i>better visibility achieved, access to information improved</i>
MAP Components and/or other partners involved	<i>REMPEC</i>
Indicators/ achievements	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>new user friendly system of information in place</i> 2. <i>revised version of the website defined.</i>
Up to date results	
Main achievements	
<p>213. This work related to the review and updating of the RIS has started with the drafting of an initial questionnaire which is currently filled with available information at the Centre. The questionnaire will then be sent to the REMPEC Focal Points for them to check and complete. This task forms part of the preparatory work for the regional workshop on contingency planning systems scheduled for 2009 and also of the reshuffling of the Centre's website. REMPEC's reviewed database on accidents in the Mediterranean has already been put on line together with a GIS associated representation.</p> <p>214. With regard to the Centre's website, a first analysis on the needs has been conducted with a developer and the outlines of the new website were agreed upon. The development will start soon.</p>	
Constraints and Lessons learnt	
Recommendations/suggestions	

4. Conservation of Biodiversity (Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Areas (SPA/RAC))

Main Goal: *To facilitate the effective implementation of the 1995 Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean (SPA/BD Protocol) taking into account the global and regional orientations and policies, as the Mediterranean Strategy on Sustainable Development (MSSD), the Strategic Action Programme for the Conservation of Biological Diversity (SAP BIO) in the Mediterranean region, the 2012 CBD target, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the European Marine Strategy and others.*

Objective 1	<i>Inventorying, mapping and monitoring of marine and coastal biodiversity in the Mediterranean</i>
Expected outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reference state regarding the distribution of key habitats - Broad use of the Standard Data-entry Form (SDF) and a better availability of technical guides - Strengthening synergy with other regional systems (e.g. Natura 2000, Emerald, MedWet)
MAP Components and/or other partners involved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SPA/RAC - European Community - European Council - IUCN - MedWet
Indicators/ achievements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of compiled SDFs - Technical guidelines edited - Surface of key habitats identified
Up to date results	<i>The assessment using achievement indicators at this stage of the biennium (first quarter) wouldn't be very significant. This assessment exercise would be let to a later stage of the biennium, once the work programme will be well advanced.</i>
Main achievements	
<p><u>Inventory of available data</u></p> <p>215. Contacts have been made with the NFPs for SPAs. Answers have been received from: Croatia, Cyprus, France, Greece, Israel, Italy, Libya, Malta, Monaco, Spain, Slovenia and Turkey. In addition two organisms have been contracted in order to identify published documents on these topics and to create the GIS layer to be integrated into the Mediterranean Geographical Information System (MedGIS).</p> <p>216. Bibliographic databases concerning coralligenous and marine meadows habitats are being developed by RAC/SPA. These databases are meant to compile the current information accessible to RAC/SPA concerning these two critical habitats for the Mediterranean wildlife.</p> <p><u>Improvement of inventory tools and standardization of mapping and monitoring approaches</u></p> <p>217. RAC/SPA will be collaborating with the IUCN-Med for the convening of a regional workshop on marine inventory and mapping methodologies. The venue, date and detailed programme of this event are to be defined in close consultation with IUCN.</p>	
Constraints and Lessons learnt	
<p>218. Due to intellectual property and copyright issues, a great amount of data could remain confidential and couldn't be provided to RAC/SPA by Mediterranean institutions or scientists.</p>	
Recommendations/suggestions	

Objective 2	Conservation of the habitats, species and significant sites
Expected outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Existing SPAMIs better managed - New SPAs and SPAMIs created - SPA/BD Protocol Annexes II and III amended - Cooperation with partners strengthened - Protection of species and habitats concerned by the Action Plans strengthened in the targeted countries - Characterization and monitoring of seagrass meadows strengthened - Better adoption of the Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) Approach - Representative SPA network in place and operational - Implementation of priority actions of the Strategic Action Programme for the Conservation of Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean region (SAP BIO) initiated
MAP Components and/or other partners involved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SPA/RAC - SAP BIO Advisory Committee members - MED POL - ACCOBAMS - AECI - CBD - EC - FFEM - GFCM - IUCN - MAVA Foundation - MedPAN - Total Corporate Foundation for Biodiversity and the Sea - WWF
Indicators/ achievements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Agreements to propose at least one multiparty SPAMI and one high sea SPAMI in 2009 to the Sixteenth Contracting Parties Meeting, from three initial candidate areas of each category - Number of species proposed for addition to the SPA/BD Protocol Annexes II and III Lists - Number of joint activities with partners - Activities listed in the Action Plans for the conservation of species achieved - Marine meadows surface mapped - Number of Posidonia beds monitored - Biodiversity section finalized in CAMPs reports - Number of joint activities with existing MPA networks - Timely preparation, approval by supervisors; successful as input for SAP BIO Donor Conference - Number of Donors - Commitments undertaken by the Donors - Total of funds committed by the Donors - Planned SAP BIO Advisory Committee and National Correspondents meetings held timely and successfully - Outputs and preparatory activities for sub-regional projects on the conservation of threatened species and habitats presented in 2009 to the Sixteenth Meeting of the Contracting Parties and approved
Up to date results	<p>The assessment using achievement indicators at this stage of the biennium (first quarter) wouldn't be very significant. This assessment exercise would be let to a later stage of the biennium, once the work programme will be well advanced.</p>

Main achievements

Assistance to countries to create SPAMIs and SPAs, including in the high seas

219. A detailed Programme of Work on Marine and Coastal Protected Areas in the Mediterranean region has been established by RAC/SPA consultants and presented to the partners organizations during a meeting held in Tunis on 1-2 April 2008. Based on the meeting discussions and the partners' inputs, this programme has been finalized by the consultants, and is about to be reviewed and endorsed by RAC/SPA staff early July.

Evaluate the status of the species listed in Annexes II and III to the SPA/BD Protocol, in view of submitting a new amended version to the Sixteenth Meeting of the Contracting Parties:

220. In consultation with IUCN, it has been planned to work on the revision of endemic macrophytes. A feasibility study is ongoing.

221. A complementary list of 10 marine and coastal threatened bird species has been proposed to be added to Annex II of the SPA/BD Protocol by the participants to the First Mediterranean Symposium for the Conservation of Marine and Coastal Bird Species.

Strengthening of partnerships for the implementation of the SPA/BD Protocol

222. A joint meeting between RAC/SPA and IUCN-Med has been made early April in Malaga. A joint programme of work is being finalized by both organizations.

Pursue the implementation of the Action Plans concerning threatened species

223. In order to promote the setting up of national stranding networks of cetaceans, a progress report of the Mediterranean Database of Cetaceans Strandings (MEDACES) has been elaborated and presented during the Fifth Meeting of the Scientific Committee of ACCOBAMS (April 2008). The report includes an analysis of the stranding data received and introduced in MEDACES and proposes a set of recommendations with the aim to improve the MEDACES functioning and efficiency at management and participation levels.

224. Within the framework of its assistance to the Mediterranean countries for the implementation of Action Plans concerning threatened species, RAC/SPA:

- has contributed to the organization of the winter census of water birds in Tunisia and Libya;
- is preparing the National Action Plan for the Conservation of Cetaceans in Syria following the consultation meetings held in Syrian coastal areas (March 2008) with the concerned actors;
- is organizing with the collaboration of ICRAM and EGA, a third field mission to continue the inspection of the last portion of Eastern Libyan coastline lying between Sousa and Ras Tin, to investigate the potential presence of Mediterranean monk seal populations and to identify any critical habitats;
- is offering its financial and technical support to contribute to the organization of a sub-regional project for the estimation of cetaceans population in the Eastern Mediterranean (Turkey, Lebanon, and Syria), the project is proposed by the University of Istanbul.

225. An activity to promote the sub-regional implementation of the Action Plan for the Conservation of Cartilaginous Fish in the East Adriatic is ongoing along Spring 2008.

226. A regional overview on the needs of legislation improvement in the Mediterranean to optimize conservation of elasmobranches is expected to be ready on early July 2008.

227. RAC/SPA is organizing in collaboration of the INSTM (Tunisia) the Third Mediterranean Conference on Marine Turtles to be held in Hammamet (Tunisia), from 20 to 23 October 2008. The first announcement has been disseminated through the Conference website and other appropriate channels.

228. Several guidelines and protocols for data collection will be produced as provided for in the Action Plan for the conservation of marine turtles. The terms of reference are drafted and the activities will be launched soon.

229. Assistance to countries are planned for Albania, Tunisia, Syria and Malta to undertake activities related to the collection of data on sites including key habitats for turtles in view of establishing protected areas.

230. A study of marine turtles' migration routes is planned in two countries (Malta and Syria). Contacts are underway with national authorities in order to define the mission dates. During those missions, awareness campaigns will be conducted through dedicated press conferences and national mass media.

231. An inventory of published literature is ongoing, as stated, as activity 1, in the implementation timetable of the Action Plan for the Conservation of Coralligenous and other Bio-concretions in the Mediterranean Sea. This element constitutes the first step of the implementation of this newly adopted Action Plan.

232. The main activity that has been implemented in the context of the conservation of marine vegetation in the Mediterranean Sea is the implementation of the MedPosidonia project (Project to develop the inventorying, mapping and monitoring of *Posidonia* meadows in four Mediterranean countries: Algeria, Libya, Tunisia and Turkey). The MedPosidonia project has been developed thank to the financial support of the Total Corporate Foundation for Biodiversity and the Sea. Field missions concerning the mapping and monitoring of *Posidonia* meadows in the selected sites are underway. The project closure is planned for December 2008. The final phase will be dedicated to the processing of the project results and the communication about its achievements.

Participation in CAMPs

233. RAC/SPA is participating to the CAMP Morocco, by:

- Implementing a pilot activity of inventorying marine biotopes, using the technical tools elaborated in the MAP context, in two sites;
- Starting and providing a base and experience for marine area conservation activities, devising measures to protect and manage the marine and coastal part of the CAMP area, particularly the Moulouya and Jebel Moussa areas;
- Helping create a SPAMI for the AI Hoceima National Park.

Support existing MPA networks (e.g. MedPAN)

234. A project to support MPAs development in Mediterranean areas under national jurisdiction has been included within the "Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Large Marine Ecosystem" project and approved by GEF Council in April 2008.

235. This project will be funded by the EC, the FFEM, the MAVA Foundation and the Spanish Cooperation Agency AECID. It will start on 2008, helping 12 Mediterranean countries to create, improve and network the management of marine and coastal protected areas.

236. RAC/SPA provided its assistance to the Syrian Environment Ministry in order to convene a National Workshop for the Presentation of an outline of the National Plan for the Development of Marine and Coastal Protected Areas along the Syrian Coast. This workshop took place in Lattakia (Syria), on 23-24 April 2008 and allowed a wide consultation between all concerned bodies at national level.

Implementation of the SAP BIO Operational Plan

237. Donor Conference: The finally available funds approved for this Conference preparation being very low, resources will be spent on the preparation of inputs to develop sub-regional project proposals.

238. SAP BIO Advisory Committee and National Correspondents meetings: Both sets of meetings will be implemented thanks to their integration within the monitoring component of the coastal MPAs project, helping at the same time to advise other SAP BIO priority activities.

239. Request for sub-regional projects on the conservation of threatened species and habitats and the management of sensitive species and habitats: The above mentioned project on coastal MPAs will contribute to this chapter. In addition, RAC/SPA achieved the endorsement of a regional project proposed to the EC to fund a programme of work for the creation of SPAMIs in Mediterranean areas beyond national jurisdiction. Activities, time-scale, funding requirements and partners were defined in two phases. The first phase funding, lasting 15 months, and starting on 2008 was approved on December 2007.

Constraints and Lessons learnt

240. The SAP BIO Operational Plan Outline supported by the National Focal Points for SPAs received a Parties' funding allocation lower than the one needed. For that reason, available funds were adapted to cover limited needs in relation with this Operational Plan implementation along 2008-2009.

Recommendations/suggestions

Objective 3	<i>Evaluation and reduction of the impact of the threats to biodiversity</i>
Expected outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Impacts of fisheries and aquaculture on sensitive habitats and threatened species reduced</i> - <i>A more effective intervention for the mitigation of pollution impacts on sensitive habitats and species</i> - <i>Reinforcement of legal instruments for the management of ballast waters</i> - <i>Enhancement of national capacities dealing with ballast water issues</i> - <i>Introduced species better known and introduction vectors better controlled</i> - <i>Potential dangers associated to non-indigenous species taken into consideration</i> - <i>Promote the sustainable use of biodiversity in the region</i>
MAP Components and/or other partners involved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>SPA/RAC</i> - <i>RAC/Blue Plan</i> - <i>REMPEC</i> - <i>PAR/RAC</i> - <i>ACCOBAMS</i> - <i>CBD</i> - <i>GEF</i> - <i>GFCM</i> - <i>IMO</i> - <i>IUCN</i> - <i>UNDP</i>
Indicators/ achievements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Areas important for cetaceans protected</i> - <i>Fishing reserves promoted as conservation tools</i> - <i>Sensitive habitats catalogued in three pilot areas</i> - <i>Number of legal instruments enforced</i> - <i>Number of trainees</i> - <i>Activities listed in the Action Plan on Non-indigenous Species fulfilled</i> - <i>Awareness material on risks associated to invasive species available</i> - <i>Number of awareness material beneficiaries (persons/organizations)</i> - <i>Guidelines on the sustainable use of biodiversity in the Mediterranean region elaborated</i>
Up to date results	<i>The assessment using achievement indicators at this stage of the biennium (first quarter) wouldn't be very significant. This assessment exercise would be let to a later stage of the biennium, once the work programme will be well advanced.</i>

Main achievements

Implementation of appropriate measures for the sustainable management of fisheries and aquaculture in collaboration with the GFCM and ad-hoc institutions

241. A questionnaire has been established in collaboration with GFCM and sent to NFPs for SPAs and GFCM members. The aim is to identify fishery reserves and fishery restricted zones in the different countries.

242. The aforementioned activities to promote the implementation of the Action Plan for the conservation of cartilaginous fish are also on this line.

243. A study for the identification of the impact of the fishing activities on turtles in the Gulf of Gabes (Tunisia) is under preparation.

244. A workshop on the interaction between fisheries and marine turtles will be convened in collaboration with GFCM, during the Third Mediterranean Conference on Marine Turtles (Tunisia, October 2008).

Evaluation of the risks of incidental pollution on identified MPAs and sensitive habitats

245. A database on MPAs is in progress and must be integrated in the MedGIS tool, in order to initiate the first phase of the evaluation process.

Implementation of the GloBallast Partnerships Project in collaboration with REMPEC and IMO

246. After the effective starting of the Project (GBP) late 2007, RAC/SPA and REMPEC participated to the GBP Inception Meeting and First Global Task Force Meeting held in London from 26-28 March 2008. REMPEC has been appointed as the Regional Coordinating Organization for the Mediterranean region. RAC/SPA will be financially participating to the project and backing all regional activities and mainly those of relevance to bio-invasions associated to ballast waters transfer. During 2008, REMPEC and RAC/SPA will be collaborating in convening the First Regional Task Force Meeting (Dubrovnik, Croatia, 11-12 September 2008) and a Training Workshop on "Ports Baseline Survey" (Istanbul, 21-24 October 2008).

Implementation of the Action Plan on Species Introductions and Invasive Species

247. In this framework, RAC/SPA convened from 3-6 February 2008 in Sharm El-Sheikh (Egypt), a Mediterranean Training Course on the Management of Marine and Coastal Invasive Species. About 30 participants from 15 Mediterranean countries participated to this training. The training makes advantage of the modular course that has been developed by the UNEP Regional Seas Programme and the Global Invasive Species Programme (GISP).

248. The edition of two important technical tools that have been elaborated within the Action Plan context is underway. These are the 'Guidelines for Controlling the Vectors of Introduction into the Mediterranean of Non-indigenous Species and Invasive Marine Species' and the 'Guide for Risk Analysis assessing the Impacts of the Introduction of Non-indigenous Species'.

Raising awareness concerning the risks associated to non-indigenous species

249. Setting-up of the working group on the sustainable use of biodiversity and evaluation of direct and indirect threats of climate change: According to the recommendations made by the Contracting Parties at their last Ordinary Meeting (Almeria, 15-18 January 2008), particularly the request that a report be drafted on the situation of biodiversity in the Mediterranean and on the impact of climate change observed, RAC/SPA initiated an appraisal of the information available on the Mediterranean. A working group constituted by a team of international experts complemented by Parties' national experts was set to develop a detailed insight on vulnerability and impacts of climate change on Mediterranean biodiversity, through a process involving biodiversity concerned ministries of all the riparian countries. Initial results are expected to be ready on 2008.

<p>Constraints and Lessons learnt</p> <p>250. No specific constraints have been met in the implementation of the listed activities, during the reporting period.</p>
<p>Recommendations/suggestions</p>

<p>Objective 4</p>	<p><i>Development of research to improve knowledge and fill gaps with respect to biodiversity</i></p>
<p>Expected outputs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Online consultation system available</i> - <i>Regional bibliographical databases accessible</i> - <i>National CHMs elaborated and integrated into the regional CHM</i> - <i>Taxonomy reference state available for users</i> - <i>Relevant indicators of the state of biodiversity identified and validated</i>
<p>MAP Components and/or other partners involved</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>SPA/RAC</i> - <i>MED POL</i> - <i>RAC/Blue Plan</i> - <i>CBD</i> - <i>EEA</i>
<p>Indicators/ achievements</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Availability of scientific documents and databases</i> - <i>Number of CHM users</i> - <i>Directory of taxonomic specialists and collections</i> - <i>Set of indicators of the state of biodiversity available</i>
<p>Up to date results</p>	<p><i>The assessment using achievement indicators at this stage of the biennium (first quarter) wouldn't be very significant. This assessment exercise would be let to a later stage of the biennium, once the work programme will be well advanced.</i></p>
<p>Main achievements</p> <p><u>Strengthen the scientific watch and improve the accessibility of information</u></p> <p>251. Several databases are in progress: the first database related to scientific publications on the impact climate change on marine biodiversity, is accessible through RAC/SPA website; the second database on coralligenous habitats distribution and related species will be made available on RAC/SPA website, in July 2008.</p>	
<p>Constraints and Lessons learnt</p> <p>252. No specific constraints have been met in the implementation of the listed activities, during the reporting period.</p>	
<p>Recommendations/suggestions</p>	

Objective 5	Capacity building to improve coordination and technical assistance
Expected outputs	<i>Strengthened capacity of Parties to integrate biodiversity features</i>
MAP Components and/or other partners involved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SPA/RAC - CMCS - CWS - Naples Zoological Station - Okianos - Seagrass 2000
Indicators/ achievements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of training sessions - Number of trainees
Up to date results	<i>The assessment using achievement indicators at this stage of the biennium (first quarter) wouldn't be very significant. This assessment exercise would be let to a later stage of the biennium, once the work programme will be well advanced.</i>
Main achievements	
<p><u>Implementation of training on techniques for the conservation, monitoring and evaluation of biodiversity</u></p> <p>253. RAC/SPA is contributing to the organization of the Seventh European Seminar on Marine Mammals: Biology and Conservation (Valencia (Spain), 15-19 September 2008), convened by the International University Menendez Pelayo, which is aiming to improve capacities on cetacean conservation issues in the Mediterranean region.</p> <p>254. RAC/SPA is organizing as each year the training session on marine turtles nesting beaches conservation techniques and tagging activities. The training is organized in collaboration with the Cyprus Wildlife Society (CWS) at the Lara Reserve (Cyprus, July and August 2008).</p>	
Constraints and Lessons learnt	
<p>255. No specific constraints have been met in the implementation of the listed activities, during the reporting period.</p>	
Recommendations/suggestions	

5. Sustainable Management of Coastal Zones (Priority Actions Programme Regional Activity Centre (PAP/RAC))

Main Goal: *The overall goal of the Priority Actions Programme is to support the implementation of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols, which aims at protecting the environment and contributing to the sustainable development of the Mediterranean Sea Area. PAP/RAC is specifically concerned with sustainable development of coastal areas and coastal regions of the Mediterranean Basin, by promoting the Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) as a major tool to achieve the Convention's goals. More specifically, the goal in the coming biennium is to carry out the preparatory activities for the implementation of the ICZM Protocol, which was signed in January 2008. These activities are to be carried in the interim period before the Protocol enters into force.*

The implementation of the Priority Actions Programme in the 2008-2009 biennium is carried out through activities organized in two major groups:

- *Sustainable Management of Coastal Zones; and*
- *Integrating Development and Environment.*

Objective 1	Legal Framework
Expected outputs	<i>Major expected output will be the Action Plan for the implementation of the Protocol</i>
MAP Components and/or other partners involved	<i>MAP Coordinating Unit: support in the development and adoption of the Action Plan PAP/RAC: activities within its mandate</i>
Indicators/ achievements	<i>Action Plan prepared, discussed and endorsed by the countries while the formal adoption could take place only after the Protocol has entered into force. In the intermediate period before the Protocol enters into force, PAP/RAC prepared:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The Report of the Expert meeting (17-18 June 2008, Split);</i> • <i>Proposal of preparatory activities for the implementation of the ICZM Protocol (the Action Plan as requested by the Protocol to be adopted once the Protocol enters into force).</i>
Up to date results	<i>The Report of the Expert meeting (17-18 June 2008, Split)</i>
Main achievements	
ICZM Protocol	
<p>256. The Expert Meeting on the Action Plan for the Implementation of the ICZM Protocol was held at the PAP/RAC premises in Split, Croatia, on 17-18 June 2008. About 30 regional experts and MAP officials participated. The objective of the meeting was to exchange opinions among the relevant experts with a view of exploring possible activities to be undertaken in this intermediate period while the signing and ratification of the ICZM Protocol is still in progress. The following major topics were presented and discussed: assessment and evaluation of the ICZM progress in the Mediterranean; explanation of the text of the Protocol; guidelines for the definition of a coastal setback; and training and awareness-raising for the implementation of the Protocol.</p>	

257. The meeting proposed various activities to be implemented in the intermediate period:
- the preparation of a stocktaking report on ICZM in the Mediterranean, including information on the existing setback practices and various toolkits;
 - the preparation of an Explanatory Guide of the Text of the Protocol;
 - and some awareness-raising and training activities. The Action Plan for the implementation of the Protocol will be prepared once the Protocol enters into force.

258. The ICZM Protocol was presented at various meetings and conferences. A leaflet about the Protocol (in English and French) was published. A publication to include the text of the Protocol in four languages is being prepared.

Constraints and Lessons learnt

259. The 2008-2009 Work Programme envisages the preparation of, discussion on, and adoption of the Action Plan for the implementation of the ICZM Protocol. However, in legal terms, this Action Plan can only be prepared once the Protocol enters into force. Therefore, the activities undertaken by PAP/RAC as described above are related to this intermediate period and focus on general preparatory activities (stocktaking, explanatory guide, awareness) with no legal obligations for the countries.

260. Since the programme of work and budget had been approved before the Protocol was adopted, it was not possible to earmark adequate financial resources for the implementation of the above activities. This fact constrained the discussion and decision on the activities to be carried out.

261. The discussion on the Action Plan has shown an enormous interest in planning and implementing the activities of the Protocol. These should start as soon as possible. The lesson learnt is that the great momentum for the Protocol exists and should not be let to fizzle out.

262. The preparation of the Action Plan* for the implementation of the Protocol might imply some adjustments in the budget envisaged for the biennium 2008-2009. In spite of a clear decision of the Contracting Parties to prepare this Action Plan, insufficient budget was allocated for this activity. On the basis of the Expert meeting (Split, 17-18 June 2008) a specific programme related to the preparatory activities for the implementation of the Protocol was suggested and approved.

Draft Recommendations

The Bureau is invited to discuss on the proposal by the expert group, and if it deems it useful agrees that the proposed activities are implemented in the framework of the Action Plan on ICZM.

* Legally, the Action Plan is to be prepared once the Protocol enters into force.

5.1 Sustainable Management of Coastal Zones

<p>Objective 2</p>	<p><i>To assist the Mediterranean coastal States to implement Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) through development and implementation of appropriate ICZM tools, improved exchange of information, increased capacity building, and implementation of concrete projects (Coastal Area Management Programme – CAMP).</i></p>
<p>Expected outputs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CAMP <i>Implementation of activities envisaged by the Action Plan; feasibility study (FS) for CAMP Italy and CAMP Agreements for Montenegro and Italy; inception reports and related workshops in Montenegro and Italy; individual CAMP activity reports (water resources, tourism, plans, strategies, EIs); regular progress reports by National Co-ordinators; final integrated reports; Final Presentation Conference for CAMP Cyprus; follow-up programme as proposed in CAMPs; MAP Technical Report Series for CAMPs Slovenia and Cyprus; training courses, workshops, capacity building initiatives and participatory programmes of stakeholders in CAMPs</i> • ICZM methodologies/tools <i>Report on the current state of the planning systems; methodology for application of ecosystem approach in coastal areas; methodology for risk vulnerability assessment in coastal areas; guidelines for the implementation of SEA in coastal areas</i> • National ICZM reports <i>National reports on ICZM in Egypt and Albania</i> • Landscape management <i>Thematic studies applying different methodologies for landscape management; Synthesis Report on all thematic studies implemented</i> • Clearing House <i>Redesign and restructure of the web site on Clearing House (CH); updating of the existing information and introduction of new components to CH</i> • Financing SD <i>Report on the state of different methodologies used in the Mediterranean countries for financing sustainable development, including recommendations on how to improve the current approaches</i> • ICZM Education <i>New run of the MedOpen course in English and French; training documents, case studies, selection of candidates, helpdesk, discussion groups, basic and advanced courses, examinations; update of new Educom@Med Programme</i> • SMAP <i>Policy Briefs with related leaflets and regional ICZM Workshop; Coast Day, TV publicity spot and a regional policy workshop</i> • Regional Component of LME Project <i>Demonstration projects, assistance in the implementation of ICZM Protocol and preparation of national ICZM Strategies</i> • Regional workshop on spatial planning <i>Workshop report and recommendations on the measures for improvement of spatial planning in Mediterranean coastal areas</i> • Regional training on landscape management <i>Report of the course</i>
<p>MAP Components and/or other partners involved</p>	<p><i>MAP Coordinating Unit: support in the development and adoption of the Action Plan</i> <i>PAP/RAC: activities within its mandate</i> <i>Other MAP components: providing assistance within their field of expertise</i> <i>Countries: providing information on relevant ICZM topics, projects and issues</i> <i>International organizations: assistance within their scope of activities</i> <i>National NGOs: support and organization of the Coast Day</i></p>

<p>Indicators/ achievements</p>	<p><i>Summary of indicators/achievements as described in working programme 2008-2009. Decision IG/17/18</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CAMP <i>Feasibility study (FS) for CAMP Montenegro prepared; draft Inception report, related workshop and the reports in Morocco completed; Draft Diagnostic Analysis for ICAM, Tourism, and Historic Sites prepared; Regular progress reports by National Co-ordinators (CAMPs Cyprus, Morocco) submitted; Draft Final Integrated Report for CAMP Cyprus prepared; Final Presentation Conference for CAMP Cyprus organized and the related report is in preparation; final outputs of the following activities for CAMP Cyprus submitted and published: Biodiversity, CCA for Tourism, Environmental Economics, ICAM, Public Participation, Testing of SEA Guidelines); MAP Technical Report Series for CAMP Slovenia prepared for printing; training courses, workshops, capacity building initiatives and participatory programmes of stakeholders in CAMPs (Cyprus, Morocco) took place.</i> • ICZM methodologies/tools <i>Six Adriatic countries participating in the analysis on spatial planning. Six national reviews prepared on spatial planning. All these reports (six national and a synthesis) were published, and the brochure and the poster printed. In the framework of the PlanCoast project two meetings took place, namely the final presentation conference and the national expert meeting in Bosnia and Herzegovina. No expert meetings organized.</i> • National ICZM reports <i>No national reports were prepared, printed or disseminated.</i> • Landscape management <i>No thematic studies applying different methodologies for landscape management nor the Synthesis Report were prepared.</i> • Clearing House <i>Restructured CH web site is not yet operational. After the adoption of the ICZM Protocol the CH will be restructured accordingly, work is in progress. A new design and restructure of the PAP/RAC main web site in 2007 yielded an impressive growth of a number of visits. If the number of visits in April 2007 ended at a bit more than 5000, this June the number reached almost 9000 visits per month.</i> • Financing sustainable development <i>No report prepared.</i> • ICZM Education <i>Eight students were involved and completed the basic MedOpen course (English and French versions, no data for the Arabic version). No additional training material was prepared. The Educom programme (EC TEMPUS) completed. The follow-up is expected by one of the leading Universities from the consortium.</i> • SMAP a) <i>At the Mediterranean Workshop on ICZM Policy (Alghero, Sardinia, on 19-21 May 2008) 84 participants were present, including the high-level policy-makers from different Ministries of the SMAP eligible countries, NGO representatives and the representatives of the SMAP III ICZM projects, including the high-level representatives of the EU, UNEP, MAP and METAP. On the third day of the Workshop a public event took place. A total of 512 registered persons participated at the event, including the students from six universities, representatives of three marine protected areas, as well as representatives of eight NGOs, three local authorities and two research centres. b) The following documents were published: Coast Day Campaign Report; opinion poll on coastal issues in the Mediterranean; ICZM Mediterranean Awareness Raising Strategy (in English and French); Towards a Strategy for Syria's Coast - ICZM Policy Background; ICZM Policy Brief - Towards a Strategy for Syria's Coast; Fiche d'orientation: La Littoralisation et le Developpement Durable. c) The Coast Day bilingual (English and French) web site which was opened in May 2007 was visited</i>
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	<p>by 8500 visitors from January till June 2008.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Regional Component of LME Project</i> (No indicator envisaged.) • <i>Regional workshop on spatial planning</i> No workshop organized. • <i>Regional training on landscape management</i> No training course organized.
Up to date results	
<p>Main achievements</p> <p>1. CAMPs:</p> <p>263. The Final Presentation Conference of CAMP Cyprus took place in Nicosia, on 13 June 2008. The purpose of the Conference was to present the main results and achievements of the activities pursued under the CAMP Cyprus project and highlight the key recommendations to the Government of Cyprus. The Conference was attended by over 50 high-level participants from almost all government departments, as well as from the private sector organizations and NGOs. The participants agreed that CAMP Cyprus was a successful project and that the proposals reached and put forward in the <i>Summary Report</i> presented at the Conference would fill an important gap in the policy framework of Cyprus with regard to coastal management.</p> <p>264. The Feasibility Study for CAMP Montenegro was completed. All MAP components envisaged to take part in the project were informed about the proposed activities.</p> <p>265. MAP Technical Report Series publication for CAMP Slovenia was completed, edited and is now being prepared for printing.</p> <p>266. General Project Co-ordinator for CAMP Levante de Almeria, Spain was selected, and draft contract with detailed Terms of Reference prepared, and is currently being negotiated with the Co-ordinator. Due to governmental changes after the national elections the process is slow and it may happen that the selected Co-ordinator will not be in a position to take this role after all, which may further delay the project implementation.</p> <p>267. CAMP Morocco: On April 29, 2008, the town of Chefchaouen hosted the CAMP Morocco Inception Workshop. The workshop has officially marked the start of this important project for the coastal zone of the Central Rif. About fifty participants representing the national, regional and local authorities and institutions, university circles, NGOs and numerous other stakeholders, attended the workshop. The workshop was preceded by a one-day training course on ICZM.</p> <p>268. CAMP Italy: After submission of the proposal for the CAMP project, including proposals for several CAMP areas, a meeting with the Focal Point was envisaged a couple of times to define the next steps (i.e. the preparation of the Feasibility Study). Due to unexpected reasons the meeting has not taken place yet.</p> <p>2. ICZM methodologies/tools:</p> <p>269. The final output of the PlanCoast project, i.e. the Handbook on Integrated Maritime Spatial Planning, has been published and is currently being disseminated, all with the support of PAP/RAC. The handbook summarises the experience of the PlanCoast project (INTERREG IIIB CADSES) where PAP/RAC is a project partner. In the reporting period PAP/RAC prepared/published National Reports on Spatial Planning in six Adriatic countries, and a Synthesis report, as well as a poster and a brochure. The PlanCoast project has been concluded with the Final Conference organized by the Emilia-Romagna Region on 27-29 March 2008 in Ravenna.</p> <p>3. National ICZM reports:</p> <p>270. Preparation of the national reports on ICZM in Egypt and Albania has not been initiated yet.</p>	

4. Landscape management:

271. Currently no thematic studies applying different methodologies for landscape management are in preparation. The Synthesis Report on all thematic studies implemented not yet been prepared.

5. Clearing House (CH):

272. Redesign and restructure of the web site of CH is ongoing. Updating of existing information and introduction of new components to CH will be done according to the ICZM Protocol structure.

6. Financing Sustainable Development:

273. Report on the state of different methodologies used in the Mediterranean countries for financing sustainable development, including recommendations on how to improve the current approaches is planned for 2009.

7. Education:

274. Basic course is constantly available on PAP/RAC web site. New run of advanced MedOpen course has not yet been prepared. Update of the Educom@Med Programme is pending external financing and it is supposed to become a self-financing programme led by one of the Universities involved in the project.

8. SMAP:

275. In the framework of the EU funded SMAP III project, PAP/RAC organized a Mediterranean Workshop on ICZM Policy (Alghero, Sardinia, on 19-21 May 2008). It was attended by 84 participants, including the high-level policy-makers from different Ministries of the SMAP eligible countries, NGO representatives and the representatives of the SMAP III ICZM projects, including the high-level representatives of the EU, UNEP, MAP and METAP. On 20 May 2008 a special session was organized dedicated to the Sardinian experience in ICZM. The "[Sardinia Charter](#)" was discussed and adopted. A press conference with participation of the representatives of the national TV stations and newspapers was dedicated to the first celebration of the EU Maritime Day and the adoption of the "Sardinia Charter". On the third day of the Workshop, on 21 May 2008, a public event with the aim to raise awareness of the EU Maritime Day took place. A total of 512 people participated at the event, including students from six universities, representatives of three marine protected areas, as well as representatives of eight NGOs, three local authorities and two research centres. About 70 posters were exhibited by different ICZM organizations.

276. On 8 May 2008 a National Workshop to Promote Syria's ICZM Policy Brief was held. High-level representatives from 8 different Ministries, including the Deputy Minister from the Ministry of Local Administration and Environment attended the workshop.

277. On 8 June 2008 the Ministry of Environment of Morocco organized a meeting to inform on the progress of the SMAP III project and to discuss implementation of ICZM Protocol. A total of 38 participants attended the workshop.

9. Regional Component of LME Project:

278. The envisaged activities have not started yet.

10. Regional workshop on spatial planning:

279. Regional Workshop to propose measures to improve spatial planning in Mediterranean coastal areas has not yet been organized.

11. Regional training on landscape management:

280. Training course to introduce various methodologies for landscape management is planned for 2009.

Constraints and Lessons learnt

281. SMAP III: On behalf of MAP, PAP/RAC (lead partner) and BP/RAC are involved in the implementation of SMAP III project, while METAP is a project partner. The contract signed with the EC includes all three partners. There is a problem related to METAP: it has not signed the contract on time and the related activities planned are not implemented. The reporting to the EC is therefore invalid, especially the financial part, and the EC is blocking the transfer of the second instalment to PAP/RAC, while the resources advanced last year had already been spent. Due to this reason PAP/RAC is faced with serious financial problems. A solution between EU, MAP and METAP should be found as soon as possible.

282. CAMP Levante de Almeria: The process of selection of the General (Project) Co-ordinator was very timely and so is the contracting procedure for this post. In the meantime governmental changes occurred after the elections in Spain, and the nominated expert has taken another high-positioned post and will not be able to fully implement the tasks from the Terms of Reference. Consultations among the regional and national authorities in Spain, and MEDU and PAP/RAC are under way. All this delays the project implementation considerably.

283. CAMPs Morocco, Spain: The realisation of the *Imagine* activity, envisaged by the Project Agreements to be implemented by BP/RAC, is pending due to the lack of funds from Blue Plan to support the implementation of activities related to sustainability and prospective analysis, as an input to other ICZM activities.

284. There is a need to find a solution for the involvement of METAP in SMAP III project. The MAP components will otherwise face financial problems because the EC will not transfer the budget envisaged by the contract.

285. In order to avoid further delays in the implementation of CAMP Levante de Almeria the Spanish authorities (national and regional) should come to a common solution with regard to the Project Coordinator.

286. The involvement of MAP components in CAMPs should be discussed, first on the programme level where components make integral part of CAMP (i.e. it is a joint activity, co-ordinated by PAP/RAC), and second in CAMPs where financial obligations are in place already by the Project Agreements (such as BP/RAC in CAMP Morocco and in CAMP Spain).

Draft Recommendation

With a view to facilitating the implementation of CAMP Morocco, the Bureau is invited to approve the allocation of 10 000 euro from the regular budget of the Coordinating Unit for 2008, to Blue Plan for carrying out activities related to sustainability and prospective analysis.

5.2 Integrating Environment and Development

<p>Objective 3</p>	<p><i>To assist the Mediterranean States to implement the Mediterranean Strategy of Sustainable Development (MSSD), in particular Chapter 2.7 related to coastal zones, and to help them develop tools for integration of priority sectoral objectives into development policies.</i></p>
<p>Expected outputs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MSSD <i>SEA and EIA studies, local management in coastal areas and development of methodology for island coastal management plans as assistance to countries in implementing MSSD</i> • 'Destinations' (LIFE) project <i>Strategies for tourism development in the three pilot areas, and creation of three demonstration centres (Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia) in the frame of 'Destinations'</i>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>CCA for Tourism</i> <i>Regional training course (TC) on implementation of the Guidelines for CCA for sustainable tourism in the Mediterranean; Report of the TC</i> • <i>Focal Points meeting</i> <i>Report of the meeting; final proposal of the work programme for the next biennium</i>
MAP Components and/or other partners involved	<p><i>MAP Components within their fields of expertise</i> <i>PAP/RAC activities within its mandate</i> <i>National counterparts</i></p>
Indicators/ achievements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>MSSD</i> <i>Besides ICZM Protocol and other ICZM activities related to Chapter 2.7. of the MSSD, no other activities were undertaken.</i> • <i>'Destinations' (LIFE) project</i> <i>No indicator envisaged.</i> • <i>CCA Tourism</i> <i>TC has not yet been organized.</i> • <i>Focal Points meeting</i> <i>No indicator envisaged.</i>
Up to date results	
Main achievements	
<p>1. MSSD:</p> <p>287. Currently no SEA and EIA studies; local management in coastal areas and development of methodology for island coastal management plans as assistance to countries in implementing MSSD are ongoing. Additional activities undertaken:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - WATER: The Guidelines on "Integrated Coastal Urban Water System Planning in Coastal Areas of the Mediterranean", Volume I Principles and Planning, and Volume II Tools and Instruments, have been published and are being distributed to the interested parties. The French version of the text is being finalised and will be published in due time. PAP/RAC is member of the Steering Committee (together with IME, GWP and BP) that is preparing the Mediterranean Day at the next World Water Forum to be held in Istanbul in 2009. PAP is responsible for the section on the water management in urban coastal areas. The Committee has met twice and PAP/RAC participated at the meetings; - BEACHMED project: PAP/RAC finalised summary and extended reports of the Beachmed sub-project 3.2. Concerted actions, tools and criteria for the implementation of the ICZM in the Mediterranean. The purpose of these reports was integration of the results of the questionnaires implemented in the 4 regions of the project by 7 sub-project partners. PAP/RAC representative participated in the final conference that was held in May in Rome. With this PAP/RAC engagement in this project ended. 	

2. 'Destinations' (LIFE) project:

288. Following the initial phase of the establishment of the Diagnostic Analysis, the "Destinations" project entered the phase related to the Assessment of Carrying Capacity for Tourism. This phase of the project includes the reinforcement of national capacities to apply the method of CCA for Tourism through the organization of training courses in the project area. To that end, two training courses were organized. The first, which was held at Corba, in Tunisia, on 23 April 2008, was preceded by a field trip demonstrating a participative approach, and the other was held at Al Hoceima, in Morocco, on 3-4 June 2008. A meeting of the Steering Committee members who gathered in the premises of the SEEE/DSPR in Rabat, on 3 June 2008 preceded the latter.

289. On 26 May 2008, the European Parliament hosted a TV Gala Ceremony organized by "Energy Globe" to award the best 2007 projects. The award for the national winners was given to PAP/RAC for the "Destinations" project for Algeria.

3. CCA for Tourism

290. No preparatory activities to organize the Regional Training Course on Implementation of CCA for Sustainable Tourism have been taken.

4. Focal Points meeting

291. At the Second meeting of the Executive Co-ordination Panel (ECP2, Malta, 29-30 May 2008) it was decided that PAP/RAC would organize its separate Focal Points Meeting. The initial preparatory activities took place, such as selection of the venue, interpretation, hotel and alike. The meeting is envisaged for May 2009.

Constraints and Lessons learnt

292. 'Destinations' (LIFE) project: Some problems exist related to participation of some partners in the project. In spite of the contract/agreement with PAP/RAC and the EC some partners do not implement their obligations.

Recommendations/suggestions

No specific recommendations required at this point.

6. Environment and Development (Blue Plan)

6.1 *Mediterranean Information System on the Environment and Sustainable Development (MISESD)*

Main Goal/s: *To improve knowledge of the environment and of sustainable development in the Mediterranean through the development of an interactive information system in cooperation with INFO/RAC and the other MAP components.*

Objective	<i>To consolidate the Mediterranean Information System on the Environment and Sustainable Development (MISESD) in order to make the information easily accessible to all the interested parties via a web interface.</i>
Expected outputs	<i>Consolidated information system (Statistical data base and Geographical information system) Web interface on data and indicators</i>
MAP Components and/or other partners involved	<i>Blue Plan, Coordinating Unit, Info/RAC, MED POL, and other RACs for the overall system Blue Plan, Info/RAC for the development including the web interface</i>
Indicators/ achievements	<i>Date of updating, number of data, spatial coverage, temporal coverage, number of requests, number of links with other web sites</i>
Up to date results	<i>The above indicators cannot be filled before the development of the system</i>
Main achievements	
<p>293. The following results have been achieved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Terms of References (February 2008) • Agreement between Blue Plan and INFO/RAC (27 March 2008) • Work programme presented to the 2nd meeting of the Executive Coordination Panel (29-30 May 2008) • Launching of the prototype phase on 18 June 2008 	
Constraints and Lessons learnt	
<p>294. A good cooperation between the MAP components and especially Info/RAC is essential for the implementation of the system</p>	
Recommendations/suggestions	

6.2 *Report on the Environment and Sustainable Development in the Mediterranean (RESO), communication and dissemination*

Objective	<i>To publish every two years and before the conference of the Contracting Parties a Report on the Environment and Sustainable Development in the Mediterranean (RESO) aiming at meeting the demand for regular information on the part of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention</i>
Expected outputs	<i>Regional report including: an analysis of the salient facts and the progress made in the Mediterranean countries, including the state of the environment, a thematic dossier reviewing the situation on an important issue for the Mediterranean with special analysis of the challenges faced, statistical data and indicators</i>

MAP Components and/or other partners involved	<i>Blue Plan, Coordinating Unit, MED POL, and other RACs</i>
Indicators/ achievements	<i>Report published and submitted to the Meeting of the Contracting Parties</i>
Up to date results	
Main achievements	
295. Adoption of the table of contents proposed by Blue Plan during the 2 nd meeting of the Executive Coordination Panel (29-30 May 2008)	
Constraints and Lessons learnt	
296. To be prepared : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A working plan with shared tasks for all MAP components for the preparation of each chapter of the report, - A coherent template to be followed by all RACs while elaborating the respective chapters. 	
Recommendations/suggestions	

6.3 Thematic activities

Main Goal/s: *To produce information that facilitates MSSD implementation and follow-up in thematic areas and enhances the definition of strategies and the implementation of proactive policies for sustainable development by demonstrating the economic, environmental and social advantages connected with this development.*

6.3.1 Sustainable agricultural and rural development

Objective 1	<p>a) To report on the on-going progress by documenting the related MSSD follow-up indicators, carrying out regional studies situating the Mediterranean region as a whole in relation to the MSSD objectives on the one hand and in relation to the rest of the world on the other, analysing the definition and implementation of sustainable rural development policies and programmes in some countries, supported with concrete examples of good practices (case studies), and analysing the experience of international cooperation for sustainable rural development (regional cooperation, development aid);</p> <p>b) To enable regional experience-sharing by organizing workshops to discuss and finalize the regional report presenting the policies, programmes or local action for rural development;</p> <p>c) To prepare regional studies/analyses, national reports, case studies and formulate recommendations for progress to be achieved in order to reach the strategic objectives both in the countries and regionally.</p>
Expected outputs	<i>Indicators, regional analyses, national reports, case studies, regional report, recommendations</i>
MAP Components and/or other partners involved	<i>Parties: data, national experts: case studies, Blue Plan and ICAMAS: set of indicators, regional experts, workshop organization, dissemination of the results</i>

Indicators/ achievements	<i>number of institutional partners associated, number of countries involved in the study of indicators, number of national reports, regional analyses and case studies carried out, number of participants in workshops and seminars</i>
Up to date results	11 national studies and 4 regional studies have been finalized 1 workshop has been organized with 35 participants
Main achievements	
297. Very successful workshop organized in Bari (Italy) on 8-10 May 2008. Participants very satisfied or satisfied: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Content: 96% - Animation: 100% - Organization: 96% - Media: 92% 	
Constraints and Lessons learnt	
Draft Recommendations	
<p>Recommendations made by the workshop participants :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To assess on a two-yearly basis the progress made by Mediterranean riparian states towards implementing the Mediterranean Sustainable Development Strategy's chapter on «sustainable agricultural and rural development». • To establish a Mediterranean platform for exchange about the territorial development processes initiated by the riparian states, stressing in particular the various tools used to encourage the effective participation of the people concerned in the design, realization and monitoring of their area project. 	

6.3.2 Tourism

Objective 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To accelerate the definition of strategies and the implementation of proactive policies for sustainable tourism by demonstrating the economic, environmental and social advantages associated with them; - To identify existing and potential obstacles and levers in the national and local policies and in international cooperation, to make progress towards the MSSD objectives; - To monitor progress in the region and the countries with regard to the MSSD objectives and orientations; - To obtain information regionally, nationally and locally
Expected outputs	<i>Indicators, regional analyses, national reports, case studies, regional report, recommendations</i>
MAP Components and/or other partners involved	<i>Parties: data, national experts: case studies, Blue Plan: set of indicators, regional experts, workshop organization, dissemination of the results</i>
Indicators/ achievements	<i>Number of documented indicators, participation in regional workshops, number of studies carried out and disseminated publications</i>
Up to date results	6 national studies, 4 regional studies 1 workshop with 61 participants

<p>Main achievements</p> <p>298. Very successful workshop organized in Sophia-Antipolis (France) on 2-3 July 2008. Main appreciations from the participants :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Content: 18 ¼ on 20 - Animation: 18 on 20 - Organization: 19 ¼ on 20 - Media: 17 ¾ on 20
<p>Constraints and Lessons learnt</p>
<p>Draft Recommendations</p> <p><i>Recommendations made by the workshop participants :</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>To continue work on the indicators in order to better characterize Mediterranean tourism and in particular its environmental impacts and social balances,</i> - <i>To reinforce prospective analyses as regards tourism in order to anticipate the evolutions to come,</i> - <i>To develop the analyses in economic matter so in particular better appreciating the impact of tourism on the environment</i>

6.3.3 Urban mobility

<p>Objective 3</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>To improve information and knowledge about the evolution of urban mobility and its impact, to raise the awareness of the decision-makers and others, and to support the diagnoses to create better urban planning and transport policies, to implement and monitor them;</i> - <i>To promote the development of local expertise, especially cross examinations by transport specialists and urban planning experts concerning urban and peri-urban mobility;</i> - <i>To raise the awareness of decision-makers, professionals and other local players about the impact on urban and peri-urban mobility on environment and sustainable development.</i>
<p>Expected outputs</p>	<p><i>Indicators, regional analyses, national reports, case studies, regional report, recommendations</i></p>
<p>MAP Components and/or other partners involved</p>	<p><i>Parties: data, national experts: case studies, Blue Plan: set of indicators, regional experts, workshop organization, dissemination of the results</i></p>
<p>Indicators/ achievements</p>	<p><i>Number of urban areas studied, Interdisciplinary composition of local teams mobilized, number of workshops and participants</i></p>
<p>Up to date results</p>	<p><i>1 steering committee meeting with 11 participants 2 case studies finalized In each local team, 2 experts : urban and transport</i></p>

<p>Main achievements</p> <p>299. The program of the case studies as well as the methodology are validated.</p>
<p>Constraints and Lessons learnt</p> <p>300. The prospect for the use of the case studies within the framework of a widened program of sensitizing and reinforcement of competences as regards urban mobility in the Mediterranean, and the related questions about the forum, the targeted public, the search for a better synergy with other initiatives on the matter, require deepening.</p>
<p>Recommendations/suggestions</p>

6.3.4 Impact of transport in the Mediterranean

<p>Objective 4</p>	<p>- <i>To contribute to the collection of relevant data in order to setup a real observation system for Mediterranean transport;</i> - <i>To organize a permanent observatory on the connection between transport/environment and sustainable development.</i></p>
<p>Expected outputs</p>	<p><i>Indicators, regional analyses, national reports, case studies, regional report, recommendations</i></p>
<p>MAP Components and/or other partners involved</p>	<p><i>Parties: data, national experts: case studies, Blue Plan: set of indicators, regional experts, workshop organization, dissemination of the results</i></p>
<p>Indicators/ achievements</p>	<p><i>Number of indicators and countries covered, number of persons and institutions interested in the report, number of enquiries launched in the countries to fill gaps in data</i></p>
<p>Up to date results</p>	
<p>Main achievements</p> <p>301. Finalisation of a study on "Transport and Energy infrastructures".</p>	
<p>Constraints and Lessons learnt</p> <p>302. On this basis, prospective scenarios could be developed.</p>	
<p>Recommendations/Suggestions</p>	

7. INFO/RAC

Main Goal/s: *Support the work of the Barcelona Convention by delivering the information platform / portal, and the technical support for its implementation, to MAP and its Components and to users in member countries*

<p>Objective 1</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>The initial modules of the platform / portal developed, installed and functioning in four pilot components of the MAP system</i> ▪ <i>Training of key actors for the use of the platforms is initiated in the four pilot components</i>
<p>Expected outputs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>An interactive facilitated system (CMS) to update information on the Convention website, to post new information, documents, photos, send circular letters to Focal Points, manage comments.</i> ▪ <i>An electronic system, linked to the modules in the MED POL and in the RACs, to facilitate the Barcelona Convention overall reporting process.</i> ▪ <i>An interactive facilitated system (CMS) to update information on the MED POL website, linked to the Barcelona Convention website, to post new information, documents, photos, send circular letters to Focal Points, manage comments.</i> ▪ <i>An intranet system, with access from Contracting Parties protected by password, to compile country reports, to insert information on pollutants, to update countries information.</i> ▪ <i>Development of plotting and GIS modules to manage of monitoring and pollution sources data for MED P POL</i> ▪ <i>An electronic system, linked to the modules in the MAP Coordination Unit, to facilitate the online reporting process.</i> ▪ <i>An intranet system, with access from Contracting Parties protected by password, to compile and update country reports, and information on Biodiversit , etc.</i> ▪ <i>System for the easy updating and maintenance of the MedGIS-based module for the management of geographic data on, biodiversity, and merging of the MedGIS into the Med CHM in order to optimize the information system.</i> ▪ <i>An Internet application, open to the public, to display and to download scientific documents on biodiversity.</i> ▪ <i>Initiate dialogue with REMPEC Secretariat and Focal Points for the gradual development of an internet-based application for the implementation, at Mediterranean scale, of an Automatic Identification System (AIS), automated, independent and continuous, on the basis of the similar system approved and under implementation by EU Mediterranean States, for the identification and tracking of dangerous goods on ships (by the Italian Coast Guard).</i>
<p>MAP Components and/or other partners involved</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ COORDINATING UNIT ▪ MED POL ▪ SPA/RAC ▪ REMPEC ▪ BP/RAC ▪ EEA
<p>Indicators/ achievements</p>	<p><i>MAP reporting system operational by the end of 2008</i></p>
<p>Up to date results</p>	<p><i>Reporting System design requirement defined</i></p>

Main achievements

303. Considering that the administrative agreements with UNEP/MAP and the Italian MoE for the implementation of INFO/RAC activities were signed in may 2008 and that the Center at present (1st of July 2008) has still not received any funds from the mentioned institutions, in the first semester only the following activities were carried out:

- Build and/or strengthen the Institutional Partnerships with MAP Coordination Unit and Components and Regional / National Cooperation in particular within the GEF-LME and Horizon 2020;
- Preparatory activities with the different MAP Components and International Organizations in view of the building of the information system.

Constraints and Lessons learnt

304. Delays in funding disbursements determine inability to meet work plans, affecting the entire MAP system and impeding coordination efforts and good governance

305. Users (and stakeholders) need to receive adequate ICT training in order to be engaged, committed and/or proactive in providing relevant inputs, together with timely and accurate data and information

306. Establishment of a common and open information and communication policy/strategy is key as well as related, sustained leadership and advocacy from the highest administrative/management levels.

Draft Recommendation

The Bureau may wish to encourage the Italian government to speed up the process of the disbursement of agreed funds in order for INFO/RAC to fully implement its programme of work for 2008.

ANNEXES

ANNEX I

Signatures and Ratifications of the Barcelona Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean and its Protocols as at 11 August 2008

Contracting Parties	Barcelona Convention 1/			Dumping Protocol 2/			Emergency Protocol 3/		New Emergency Protocol 4/	
	Signature	Ratification	Acceptance of Amendments	Signature	Ratification	Acceptance of Amendments	Signature	Ratification	Signature	Ratification
Albania	-	30.05.90/AC	26.07.01	-	30.05.90/AC	26.07.01	-	30.05.90/AC	-	-
Algeria	-	16.02.81/AC	09.06-04	-	16.03.81/AC	-	-	16.03.81/AC	25.01.02	-
Bosnia and Herzegovina	-	01.03.92/SUC	-	-	01.03.92/SUC	-	-	01.03.92/SUC	-	-
Croatia	-	08.10.91/SUC	03.05.99	-	08.10.91/SUC	03.05.99	-	08.10.91/SUC	25.01.02	01.10.03
Cyprus	16.02.76	19.11.79	15.10.01	16.02.76	19.11.79	18.07.03	16.02.76	19.11.79	25.01.02	18.01.08
European Commission	13.09.76	16.03.78/AP	12.11.99	13.09.76	16.03.78/AP	12.11.99	13.09.76	12.08.81/AP	25.01.02	25.06.04
Egypt	16.02.76	24.08.78/AP	11.02.00	16.02.76	24.08.78/AP	11.02.00	16.02.76	24.08.78/AC	-	-
France	16.02.76	11.03.78/AP	16.04.01	16.02.76	11.03.78/AP	16.04.01	16.02.76	11.03.78/AP	25.01.02	02.07.03
Greece	16.02.76	03.01.79	10.03.03	11.02.77	03.01.79	-	16.02.76	03.01.79	25.01.02	27.11.06
Israel	16.02.76	03.03.78	29.09.05	16.02.76	01.03.84	-	16.02.76	03.03.78	22.01.03	-
Italy	16.02.76	03.02.79	07.09.99	16.02.76	03.02.79	07.09.99	16.02.76	03.02.79	25.01.02	-
Lebanon	16.02.76	08.11.77/AC	-	16.02.76	08.11.77/AC	-	16.02.76	08.11.77/AC	-	-
Libya	31.01.77	31.01.79	-	31.01.77	31.01.79	-	31.01.77	31.01.79	25.01.02	-
Malta	16.02.76	30.12.77	28.10.99	16.02.76	30.12.77	28.10.99	16.02.76	30.12.77	25.01.02	18.02.03
Monaco	16.02.76	20.09.77	11.04.97	16.02.76	20.09.77	11.04.97	16.02.76	20.09.77	25.01.02	03.04.02
Montenegro	-	-	19.11.07	-	-	-	-	-	-	19.11.07
Morocco	16.02.76	15.01.80	07.12.04	16.02.76	15.01.80	05.12.97	16.02.76	15.01.80	25.01.02	-
Slovenia	-	15.03.94/AC	08.01.03	-	15.03.94/AC	08.01.03	-	15.03.94/AC	25.01.02	16.02.04
Spain	16.02.76	17.12.76	17.02.99	16.02.76	17.12.76	17.02.99	16.02.76	17.12.76	25.01.02	09.08.07
Syria	-	26.12.78/AC	10.10.03	-	26.12.78/AC	11.04.08	-	26.12.78/AC	25.01.02	¹ AC-
Tunisia	25.05.76	30.07.77	01.06.98	25.05.76	30.07.77	01.06.98	25.05.76	30.07.77	25.01.02	-
Turkey	16.02.76	06.04.81	18.09.02	16.02.76	06.04.81	18.09.02	16.02.76	06.04.81	-	04.06.03

Accession = AC

Approval = AP

Succession = SUC

¹ Pending notification from Depository country

Contracting Parties	Land-Based Sources Protocol 5/			Specially Protected Areas Protocol 6/		SPA & Biodiversity Protocol 7/		Offshore Protocol 8/		Hazardous Wastes Protocol 9/	
	Signature	Ratification	Acceptance of Amendments	Signature	Ratification	Signature	Ratification	Signature	Ratification	Signature	Ratification
Albania	-	30.05.90/AC	26.07.01	-	30.05.90/AC	10.06.95	26.07.01	-	26.07.01	-	26.07.01
Algeria	-	02.05.83/AC	-	-	16.05.85/AC	10.06.95	² AC	-	-	01.10.96	-
Bosnia and Herzegovina	-	22.10.94/SUC	-	-	22.10.94/SUC	-	-	-	-	-	-
Croatia	-	12.06.92/SUC	11.10.06	-	12.06.92/SUC	10.06.95	12.04.02	14.10.94	-	-	-
Cyprus	17.05.80	28.06.88	18.07.03	-	28.06.88/AC	10.06.95	15.10.01	14.10.94	15.10.01	-	-
European Commission	17.05.80	07.10.83/AP	12.11.99	30.03.83	30.06.84/AP	10.06.95	12.11.99	-	-	-	-
Egypt	-	18.05.83/AC	-	16.02.83	08.07.83	10.06.95	11.02.00	-	-	01.10.96	-
France	17.05.80	13.07.82/AP	16.04.01	03.04.82	02.09.86/AP	10.06.95	16.04.01	-	-	-	-
Greece	17.05.80	26.01.87	10.03.03	03.04.82	26.01.87	10.06.95	-	14.10.94	-	01.10.96	-
Israel	17.05.80	21.02.91	-	03.04.82	28.10.87	10.06.95	-	14.10.94	-	-	-
Italy	17.05.80	04.07.85	07.09.99	03.04.82	04.07.85	10.06.95	07.09.99	14.10.94	-	01.10.96	-
Lebanon	17.05.80	27.12.94	-	-	27.12.94/AC	-	-	-	-	-	-
Libya	17.05.80	06.06.89/AP	-	-	06.06.89/AC	10.06.95	-	-	-	01.10.96	-
Malta	17.05.80	02.03.89	28.10.99	03.04.82	11.01.88	10.06.95	28.10.99	14.10.94	-	01.10.96	28.10.99
Monaco	17.05.80	12.01.83	26.11.96	03.04.82	29.05.89	10.06.95	03.06.97	14.10.94	-	01.10.96	-
Montenegro	-	-	19.11.07	-	-	-	19.11.07	-	-	-	19.11.07
Morocco	17.05.80	09.02.87	02.10.96	02.04.83	22.06.90	10.06.95	-	-	01.07.99	20.03.97	01.07.99
Slovenia	-	16.09.93/AC	08.01.03	-	16.09.93/AC	-	08.01.03	10.10.95	-	-	-
Spain	17.05.80	06.06.84	17.02.99	03.04.82	22.12.87	10.06.95	23.12.98	14.10.94	-	01.10.96	-
Syria	-	01.12.93/AC	11.04.08	-	11.09.92/AC	-	10.10.03	20.09.95	-	-	-
Tunisia	17.05.80	29.10.81	01.06.98	03.04.82	26.05.83	10.06.95	01.06.98	14.10.94	01.06.98	01.10.96	01.06.98
Turkey	-	21.02.83/AC	18.09.02	-	06.11.86/AC	10.06.95	18.09.02	-	-	01.10.96	03.04.04

Accession = AC

Approval = AP

Succession = SUC

² Pending notification from Depository country

Contracting Parties	Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) Protocol 10/	
	Signature	Ratification
Albania	-	
Algeria	21.01.08	
Bosnia and Herzegovina	-	
Croatia	21.01.08	
Cyprus	-	
European Commission	-	
Egypt	-	
France	21.01.08	
Greece	21.01.08	
Israel	21.01.08	
Italy	21.01.08	
Lebanon	-	
Libya	-	
Malta	21.01.08	
Monaco	21.01.08	
Montenegro	21.01.08	
Morocco	21.01.08	
Slovenia	21.01.08	
Spain	21.01.08	
Syria	21.01.08	
Tunisia	21.01.08	
Turkey	-	

STATUS OF ENTRY INTO FORCE

Legal instruments	Place and date of Adoption	Entry into force date	Place and date of adoption of amendment, if any	Entry into force of amendments
Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution, amended as Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean (Barcelona Convention)	16 February 1976, Barcelona	12 February 1978		
			10 June 1995, Barcelona	9 July 2004
The Protocol for the Prevention of Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by Dumping from Ships and Aircraft (Dumping Protocol), amended as The Protocol for the Prevention of Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by Dumping from Ships and Aircraft or Incineration at Sea (Dumping Protocol)	16 February 1976, Barcelona	12 February 1978		
			10 June 1995, Barcelona	Not yet in force
The Protocol concerning Co-operation in Combating Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by Oil and other Harmful Substances in Cases of Emergency (Emergency Protocol)	16 February 1976, Barcelona	12 February 1978	—	—
The Protocol concerning Co-operation in Preventing Pollution from Ships and, in Cases of Emergency, Combating Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea (Prevention and Emergency Protocol)*	25 January 2002, Malta	17 March 2004	—	—

* According to paragraph 2 of Article 25, this Protocol as from the date of its entry into force (17 March 2004) shall replace the Emergency Protocol (of 1976) in the relations between the Parties to both instruments.

Legal instruments	Place and date of Adoption	Entry into force date	Place and date of adoption of amendment, if any	Entry into force of amendments
<p>The Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea Against Pollution from Land-based Sources,</p> <p>amended as The Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea Against Pollution from Land-based Sources and Activities</p> <p>(LBS Protocol)</p>	17 May 1980, Athens	17 June 1983	7 March 1996, Syracuse	11 May 2008
<p>The Protocol Concerning Mediterranean Specially Protected Areas</p> <p>(SPA Protocol)</p>	3 April 1982, Geneva	23 March 1986	—	—
<p>The Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean</p> <p>(SPA & Biodiversity Protocol)**</p>	10 June 1995, Barcelona	12 December 1999	—	—
<p>Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea Against Pollution Resulting from Exploration and Exploitation of the Continental Shelf and the Seabed and its Subsoil</p> <p>(Offshore Protocol)</p>	14 October 1994, Madrid	Not yet in force	—	—
<p>Protocol on the Prevention of Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal</p> <p>(Hazardous Wastes Protocol)</p>	1 October 1996, Izmir	18 January 2008	—	—
<p>Protocol on Integrated Coastal Zone Management</p> <p>(ICZM Protocol)</p>	21 January 2008, Madrid	Not yet in force	—	—

** According to paragraph 2 of Article 32, this Protocol as from the date of its entry into force (12 December 1999) shall replace the SPA Protocol (of 1982) in the relationship among the Parties to both instruments.

ANNEX II

DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE EXECUTIVE COORDINATION PANEL

Background

The 15th Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention (Almeria, Spain 15-18 January 2008) approved the Governance Paper which provides inter alia for the setting up of an Executive Coordination Panel (ECP) to enhance accountability, collaboration and coordination across the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) system.

Mandate

Taking into account the goals and principles outlined in the Action Plan for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Sustainable Development of the Coastal Areas of the Mediterranean adopted in 1995, and in the Governance Paper approved by the Contracting Parties at their 15th Meeting in Almeria, Spain, and considering also the terms of reference of the Regional Activity Centres as outlined in the respective Protocols or Host Country Agreements, the Executive Coordination Panel is mandated to:

1. Identify and propose to the Contracting Parties a five-year working programme highlighting the priorities and goals based on the Convention, its Protocols, the MSSD, regional thematic policies and the decisions of the meetings of the Contracting Parties;
2. Prepare and propose to the Contracting Parties a two-year programme of work for MAP. This programme of work shall reflect thematic priorities of MAP and identify cross-cutting issues, bearing in mind the need to ensure synergy and complementarity among MAP components. The programme of work shall also reflect the activities carried out by the various MAP components, together with the proposed budget allocations;
3. Review the status of implementation of the programme of work and budget and decisions of the meetings of the Contracting Parties and propose necessary measures and actions for their successful and timely implementation;
4. Ensure the effective functioning of the MAP information system;
5. Act as a forum for exchanges of views on policy issues of MAP relevance and on methods and means to tackle operational issues;
6. Propose to the Bureau and to the meetings of the Contracting Parties a coherent platform for joint action and cooperation with other concerned actors and initiatives at the regional and international level.

Membership

The members of the ECP shall be the Coordinator, the Deputy Coordinator, the MED POL Coordinator and the Directors of REMPEC, BP/RAC, SPA/RAC, PAP/RAC, CP/RAC, INFO/RAC and the 100 Historic Sites programme. In the event that they are unable to attend the meetings, their deputies shall represent the members of the ECP. Other officials from the Coordinating Unit and the RACs may be invited to attend the ECP meetings.

The meetings of the ECP shall be chaired by the Coordinator and, in his absence, by the Deputy Coordinator. The Coordinating Unit shall provide the secretariat for the meetings of the ECP.

Modus operandi

The members of the ECP shall meet in principle four times a year, on dates to be agreed upon in advance. Each meeting shall last for one or two days depending on the agenda and shall be conducted in a results-driven, flexible and cost-effective manner. In the interim periods, the ECP members shall maintain constant communication among themselves, using modern telecommunication technologies.

The ECP shall meet on the premises of the Coordinating Unit in Athens and of the different Centres on a rotation basis or back to back with other MAP meetings. The secretariat of the Centre hosting the meeting of the ECP shall provide the conference facilities, including interpretation into English and French and other secretarial support. Travel and accommodation costs shall be borne by the ECP members themselves.

The ECP may establish *ad hoc* working groups on specific issues with precise terms of reference. If need be, external experts may be involved.

Reporting

The ECP shall draw up a report of its deliberations and decisions, to be written in telegraphic style, point by point. It shall be approved at the end of each meeting. The report shall then be submitted to the Bureau for information. The reports of the meetings of the ECP shall be published on the MAP website and circulated among MAP Focal Points.

ANNEX III

DRAFT

SELECTION CRITERIA AND METHOD OF NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES REPRESENTING NEW CATEGORIES OF MCSD MEMBERS

Background

This document is guided by the decisions made by the 15th Meeting of the Contracting Parties (Almeria, Spain, 15-18 January 2008), particularly those contained in the Governance Paper that concern the MCSD composition (Decision IG 17/4).

The MCSD is a forum for debate and exchange of experience on sustainable development issues that concern all interested parties in the Mediterranean region. It would therefore be appropriate to involve the greatest possible variety of national actors in the work of the Commission, so as to ensure the widest possible dissemination of the concepts promoted by the MCSD.

In addition to representatives of the Contracting Parties, local authorities, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and socio-economic stakeholders, three new categories have been agreed upon, representing:

- the scientific community;
- intergovernmental organizations working in the field of sustainable development;
- eminent experts specializing in the topics on the MCSD meeting agenda.

In order to implement the decision, the Contracting Parties requested the Secretariat to propose to the Bureau of the Contracting Parties for approval, following prior consultation with the MAP Focal Points and MCSD members, the criteria and procedures for the selection of the MCSD members from the academic and scientific community, the intergovernmental organizations and eminent experts as provided for in the Governance Paper.

As indicated in the Almeria report, in determining the proposed criteria and procedures for the selection of representatives of the new categories, efforts should be made to ensure participation of representatives from both the environmental and the development sectors related to the topics on the agenda of each meeting of the MCSD, and also to ensure appropriate geographical representation, and media participation, as requested by the Contracting Parties.

1. Criteria

General criteria

- *Have a broad vision and a Mediterranean focus;*
- *Represent or be an active member of a national or Mediterranean network or knowledge community;*
- *Have relevant expertise in issues of importance to the MCSD, including priority areas and cross-cutting issues;*
- *Be active in the field of sustainable development;*
- *Be willing to share and exchange with other members their expertise and experience, on the occasion of MCSD meetings and during intersessional periods (e.g. through contribution to specific working groups);*

- *Be willing to engage in MSSD implementation in their domain of influence;*
- *Have an explicit interest and effective involvement in Mediterranean activities.*

Specific criteria for the scientific community

- *Be the author of a significant list of publications in domains that are relevant to the MCSD work programme and MSSD priority areas of action: energy and climate change; information and communication; integrated coastal management; management of water demand, marine pollution; sustainable development indicators; sustainable tourism; sustainable agriculture; urban development;*
- *Be familiar with the MAP programme of work and activities;*
- *Be familiar with the Barcelona system;*
- *Have contributed or contribute consistently to increased understanding of environmental, social or economic issues at stake in the region through collaborative action-oriented research or teaching.*

Specific criteria for intergovernmental organizations working in the field of sustainable development

- *Be engaged in significant regional or country-level programmes of relevance to the MCSD work programme and MSSD priority areas of action;*
- *Be involved in regional or subregional cooperation frameworks, facilities, policies or financial mechanisms.*

Specific criteria for eminent experts

- *be distinguished Mediterranean personalities recognized in the environmental, social or economic domains;*
- *have recognized policy influence at the regional or country level;*
- *entertain connections with decision makers and policy leaders.*

2. Methods of nomination

In the selection process for the categories "scientific community" and "eminent expert", the principle of balanced geographical representation between the North, South, East and West will be carefully respected.

Scientific community

The representatives of the scientific community will be selected on the basis of proposals made by the MAP components and partners that transmit the candidatures to the Secretariat of MAP. Spontaneous candidatures may also be solicited and considered by the Secretariat.

Intergovernmental organizations

The representatives of the intergovernmental organizations will be selected through proposals made by the Secretariat of MAP that will solicit candidatures directly.

Eminent experts

Cooptation will be encouraged among the Contracting Parties. Expressions of interest will be solicited directly by the MAP Secretariat.

ANNEX IV
DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE
PERFORMANCE AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AUDIT OF MAP
AND ITS COMPONENTS

Background

The biennial programme of work and budget of the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP), including the administrative and operating costs of the Coordinating Unit and MED POL, the Mediterranean Commission for Sustainable Development (MCSD) and the Regional Activity Centres (RACs), with the exception of CP/RAC and INFO/RAC, is financed mainly from the Mediterranean Trust Fund (MTF).

Ordinary contributions by the Contracting Parties to the MTF constitute the main sources of funding and are the most important factor in the process of ensuring adequate, stable and predictable financial resources for the implementation of the biennial programme of work. Ordinary contributions to the MTF have been stable for the last 30 years and today constitute 75.5% of the total financial resources of MAP. The balance is made up of voluntary contributions from the European Commission (EC), the Government of Greece, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and bank interest.

Additional external funding in the form of earmarked contributions made by governments, the EC, UNEP, the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and other cooperating agencies or supporting organizations is received by both the Coordinating Unit and the RACs to support specific activities, services and facilities, as set out in individual project documents. These additional resources enable MAP and its components to carry out additional activities which otherwise would not have been possible.

MAP and its components also receive contributions in kind from various sources, consisting principally of the support received by the RACs from the governments hosting them. This support is essential for the operation of the RACs. The hosting of MAP meetings at no cost to the Secretariat also constitutes considerable additional in-kind support. In the absence of in-kind contributions, the required funding would constitute an additional burden on MAP finances.

At their 13th Ordinary Meeting in Catania, in 2003, the Contracting Parties agreed not to increase the rate of their ordinary contributions for the two bienniums 2004-2005 and 2006-2007 following their decision to adopt the euro as the operating currency for MAP instead of the dollar. At the time, a favourable euro-dollar exchange rate resulted in an increase in the amount of financial contributions to the MTF.

No increase was requested for the biennium 2008-2009 either, and the Coordinating Unit and the MAP components had to prepare their budgets for the next biennium on a zero increase basis. The result has been the shifting of funds from activities to personnel emoluments, primarily in order to effect salary increases to compensate for the rise in the cost of living.

In real terms, the contributions of the Contracting Parties to the MTF are falling while the demands placed on its funds are increasing. As the programme of work becomes more ambitious the core costs of implementing its activities are increasing accordingly, in particular the expenditure on staffing, meetings, operational facilities, support for MAP activities in the developing countries, expert assistance and consultancies.

The functions carried out by the Coordinating Unit and MAP components are mainly coordination, technical assistance and capacity-building. It is not the role of MAP to fund major physical projects but to catalyse support in order to enhance the capacities of the Contracting Parties to help them improve their institutional capabilities and the management of their marine environment and their coastal zones, and to safeguard biodiversity.

Furthermore, the Secretariat does not generate any revenue from its activities. As explained earlier, the only sources of funding are the ordinary contributions to the MTF and other voluntary and earmarked contributions. It is therefore important to secure stable and sustainable funding for MAP activities.

In order to meet the ever-increasing cost of implementing the programme of work and activities, the Secretariat intends to submit a request to the Meeting of the Contracting Parties in 2009 for an increase in the ordinary contributions for the biennium 2010-2011, provided this is justified. To this end the intention is to carry out an assessment of the budgetary performance of MAP and its components to determine what adjustments should be introduced in terms of both how funding is derived and how the funds are being utilized before a final decision is taken on whether to request an increase in contributions from the Contracting Parties.

Mandate and Description of the Assignment

In their decision on the programme of work and budget for the biennium 2008-2009 the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention requested the Secretariat to have a financial management audit of MAP and its components carried out during 2008 by UNEP specialized bodies with a view to proposing efficient and cost-effective use of available human and financial resources and strengthening the effectiveness of the overall programme.

Overall Objective

The overall objective of this exercise is to propose efficient and cost-effective use of the human and financial resources and strengthen the effectiveness of the overall programme as well as to determine whether it would be justified for the Secretariat to request an increase in the ordinary contributions to the MTF.

Specific Objectives

The specific objectives of the financial management audit are to determine and/or propose:

- whether the allocation of funds to the different MAP components is commensurate with their programme of work;
- whether the level of contributions made from the MTF to other United Nations organizations to carry out activities on behalf of MAP is justified;
- whether the financial contributions from national authorities and United Nations organizations in support of the Regional Activity Centres are realistic in relation to their commitments and possibilities;
- how the synergy between MAP components could be strengthened through the allocation of financial resources;
- whether there is a need for the reallocation of existing financial resources to finance priority activities within the overall MAP programme of work;
- the problems and obstacles that may be hindering the effective implementation of programmes and activities;
- whether the available resources are employed economically and efficiently;

- how MAP and its components could mobilize additional non-conventional funding;
- whether a request for an increase in the ordinary contributions to the MTF would be justified taking into account also important new activities being undertaken by MAP on the basis of decisions taken by the Meeting of the Contracting Parties;
- advantages and disadvantages of according international status to the RACs as requested in the Governance Paper.

Output and Responsibility

During this exercise interviews will be held with the Coordinator, MED POL Coordinator, Programme Officers, the Fund/Administrative Officer and the Directors of the Regional Activity Centres. Visits to the Coordinating Unit in Athens and to the different RACs may also be necessary. In all instances, full cooperation will be extended to the concerned UNEP officials to facilitate their assignment. A timetable of such meetings and visits will be prepared in advance and agreed to by all MAP officials involved in the financial management audit.

Consultations with United Nations agencies that have a close working relationship with MAP and its components and with some of the MAP partners, including non-governmental organizations (NGOs) are also recommended. Such consultations will help to identify the priorities on which MAP should focus its attention and to which it should allocate its financial resources.

The expected output of this assignment is an assessment of the budget management performance of the Coordinating Unit, including MED POL and the RACs, and of the efficient and cost-effective use being made of the resources in the MTF. The report will also determine whether the current level of activities can be sustained with the present level of funding or whether additional financial resources are needed.

This assignment will be carried out under the overall direction and supervision of the Executive Coordination Panel of MAP.

Duration and timetable

The assignment should commence in early 2008 and should be completed by the end of 2008. A draft of the final report will be submitted for the consideration and review of the Executive Coordination Panel of MAP at least three months before it is finalized. The final report, including comments by the Executive Coordination Panel, will be submitted to the Bureau for consideration during its first meeting in early 2009 before it is circulated to the Contracting Parties so that they may take into consideration the recommendations made which may have implications for the preparation of their national budgets for the financial years 2010-2011.

ANNEX V
TRUST FUND FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA
AGAINST POLLUTION (ME)
Status of contributions as at 30 June 2008
(Expressed in Euro)

COUNTRIES	Unpaid pledges for 2007 & prior yrs		Adjustments	Pledges for 2008	Collections during 2008 for 2008 and fut. yrs	Collections during 2008 for prior yrs	Unpaid pledges for prior yrs.	Unpaid pledges for 2008 & prior yrs
Albania	5,652		0	3,877	3,877	5,652	0	0
Algeria	232,652		0	58,163	0	54,205	178,447	236,610
Bosnia & Herzegovina	0		0	16,619	0	0	0	16,619
Croatia	0		0	53,730	53,730	0	0	0
Cyprus	0		0	7,755	0	0	0	7,755
Egypt	-27,011		0	27,143	0	0	-27,011	132
European Union	0		0	138,483	138,483	0	0	0
France	0		0	2,103,262	0	0	0	2,103,262
Greece	0		0	155,653	0	0	0	155,653
Israel	135		0	81,427	0	0	135	81,562
Italy	0		0	1,737,670	0	0	0	1,737,670
Lebanon	7,518		0	3,877	0	0	7,518	11,395
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	230,759		0	109,124	0	0	230,759	339,883
Malta	0		0	3,877	0	0	0	3,877
Monaco	0		0	3,877	3,877	0	0	0
Montenegro	0		0	1,294	1,294	0	0	0
Morocco	15,511		0	15,511	0	0	15,511	31,022
Slovenia	0		0	37,113	37,113	0	0	0
Spain	830,337		0	830,337	0	830,337	0	830,337
Syrian Arab Rep.	0		0	15,511	0	0	0	15,511
Tunisia	11,632		0	11,632	11,632	11,632	0	0
Turkey	0		0	124,634	124,634	0	0	0
T o t a l	1,307,186	2/	0	5,540,569	374,640	901,826	405,361	5,571,290

Additional Contributions (for information only)

European Commission	-1		0	598,569	0	0	0	598,568
Host Country *	487,100		0	440,000	0	0	487,100	927,100
UNEP Env. Fund	0	1/	0	15,000	15,000	0	0	0
T o t a l	1,794,284		0	6,594,138	389,640	901,826	892,460	7,096,957

N.B. Amounts in brackets mean credit to the Government

1/ Interfund transfer

2/ The amount brought forward is less the "outstanding" pledge of Serbia and Montenegro of 36,000 as the States are separate now.