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ENGLISH
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MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN

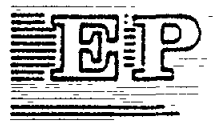
Eighth Meeting of the National Focal Points
for the Blue Plan (BP)

Sohpia Antipolis, 20-22 July 1987

PROPOSED WORKPLAN AND BUDGET
FOR THE BLUE PLAN IN THE 1988-1989 BIENNIUM



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Athens, 1987

INTRODUCTION

In pursuance to the decisions of the Contracting Parties (Genoa, September 1985), to complete the Blue Plan exercise by the end of 1987, the Blue Plan Regional Activity Centre, in close co-operation with the Co-ordinating Unit, intensified its work during 1986-1987 through various steps:

- consolidating and strengthening the permanent team and consultants at the centre; two researchers from Morocco (November 1985) and Greece (March 1986) were selected to the permanent team of the Blue Plan. The procedure for recruitment of the third expert (Egypt) could not be successfully completed;
- convening two meetings of the Steering Committee of the Blue Plan at the Centre's premises on 21-22 October 1986 and 29-30 April 1987. The meetings reviewed progress achieved and steered the work of the whole exercise;
- the Study Group on Mediterranean Scenarios convened two meetings one in 1986 and one in 1987;
- a drafting group of six (I. Abdel-Rahman, S. Antoine, M. Batisse, Ma Grenon, J. Lesourne, A. Manos) met five times during 1986 and 1987, during which agreement was reached on the method of presentation, use to be made of the sectoral studies and statistical information collected, as well as on structure, content, length and timetable of the Blue Plan main Report;
- a meeting with the Executive Director took place in Paris (17 October 1986) to review and agree upon the programme and the timetable scheduled for the achievement of the second phase of the Blue Plan and to stress the importance of the environmental aspects in the whole process;
- the Bureau of the Contracting Parties was regularly informed about the progress achieved concerning Blue Plan final Report. On two occasions, the Bureau acted on requests for re-allocation of funds for Blue Plan;
- a high level Consultant (Mr. I. Abdel-Rahman, Egypt) undertook missions to Egypt, Algeria, Morocco, Syria and Turkey to assist in formulating national scenarios. The Blue Plan Centre assisted other Contracting Parties, technically and financially in their efforts to prepare their national scenarios;

- a joint meeting of the National Focal Points for Blue Plan and Priority Actions Programme was held in Athens, 28-30 April 1986. A set of recommendations was adopted. The report of the meeting is contained in document UNEP/WG.143/8.

THE BLUE PLAN AND ITS FOLLOW-UP

1. The second phase of the Blue Plan was launched in the spring of 1985 after the signing of an agreement between UNEP and France and the establishment at Sophia Antipolis, of the Regional Activities Centre of the Blue Plan. The preliminary report concluding this second phase and dealing mainly with results of a certain number of Mediterranean scenarios will be submitted to the Focal Points of the Blue Plan in July 1987. During the third phase which will be concluded as planned at the end of December 1987, the observations, comments and criticisms of the Focal Points and the Contracting Parties, formulated during their respective meetings or through direct contacts, will be taken into consideration for the drafting of the definite text of the Blue Plan as well as of the annexes and specialized volumes that will accompany it.
2. From the beginning of 1988, the content, the result and the conclusions of the Blue Plan will thus begin being disseminated and the period of its gradual implementation will start, so that it will be the basis for reflection and orientation in the decision taking and the action programmes of the Mediterranean countries, in everything that concerns the relationship between the environment and development.
3. In so far as the Contracting Parties will deem it desirable, it is planned to conclude the necessary arrangements in order that the definite text of the Blue Plan as well of the annexes and the specialized volumes be published in the beginning of 1988 in the two working languages of MAP and given the widest possible dissemination throughout the world.
4. At the same time, special arrangements could also be made by those countries that wish it to translate and publish these documents in other Mediterranean languages. It is through this wide dissemination that the true impact of the Blue Plan will be made and fully appreciated, both at national and at Mediterranean levels, in official and academic circles and by the general public.
5. During the period of gradually taking into consideration the results of the Blue Plan in 1988 and 1989, the Contracting Parties will probably think about the scope of some conclusions at national level and will wish to look deeper into certain aspects which may be of greater concern to them, either individually or collectively, in terms of the action priorities which will have been proposed by the Mediterranean Action Plan. On the other hand, the experience of prospective projects such as the Blue Plan, implemented at national level or at the level of international organizations (FAO, OECD etc), shows that they are actually taken into consideration and implemented, after they have undergone a critical examination on the part of national planners and decision makers and after a period of interaction and exchange of views between them and those responsible for the prospective projects.

6. Within this framework, the Steering Committee and the Secretariat of the MAP believe that, during the 1988-1989 biennium which follows immediately after the definite formulation of the Blue Plan and which is the beginning of the implementation, it is important not only to ensure its dissemination, but also to foster the interest that is generated by this prospective project in all Mediterranean countries and not to waste the experience and knowledge that will have been acquired.

7. It especially appears necessary to continue the dialogue and to maintain the working relations with the institutions and individuals which will be entrusted with the development of national scenarios in the light of the results of the Blue Plan and with comparable methodologies. In this framework, it is also necessary to keep up-to-date and ensure the continuity of the series of socio-economic and environmental data collected at Mediterranean level.

8. Thus, the 1988-89 biennium could be defined as an interaction period between the results and the methods of the Blue Plan on the one hand and its implementation at the level of future development and planning by the various countries on the other.

9. During this period, the available information should be utilized, maintained and further specialized according to the priorities established by the Contracting Parties collectively or individually. Such a course requires that, during this period, certain tasks be taken over by the Regional Activities Centre with the aim essentially to putting at the disposal of the countries that would wish if the experience and knowledge acquired and further to keeping the information up-to-date. The draft budget for the 1988-1989 biennium is conceived in this perspective.

10. It is possible that, at a later stage and depending on the orientation to be defined in due course, the Contracting Parties deem it necessary to enter into a collective and prospective examination of the relationship between development and environment and also of the actions that will ensue from such an examination within the framework of the MAP.

11. Obviously the exact nature and methods for such work cannot be defined at the present time. However, it is clear that the interaction period on the follow-up of the Blue Plan must allow the Contracting Parties to take at a later stage an informed and well-advised decision on the form that their co-operation in the socio-economic field will take in the future.

PROPOSALS FOR THE 1988-1989 BUDGET

1. For the interaction period represented by the 1988-1989 biennium within the follow-up of the Blue Plan, the proposals for the budget were reduced to the minimum amount which would cover the projects and services planned, taking into account the substantial counterpart contribution of the host country.

2. The budget provides firstly for the continuation during this period as scientific consultant of the expert who held the post of scientific director during the second and third phase. Secondly, the budget provides for a small number of high-level international consultants from various Mediterranean countries who have played an active role in the preparation of Mediterranean

scenarios and thus will be able to assist the scientific consultant in providing advice and technical and methodological support to the interested countries as requested. The support personnel needed for the Regional Activities Centre will essentially be furnished by the host country and the contribution of the MAP will be limited to one part-time mathematician and one secretary-documentalist. A quite considerable budget line will be reserved to travel, in order that the scientific consultant and, if need be, the international consultants be in a position to visit the countries that have requested their presence to help formulate the national scenarios on environment-development or the latter's utilization on terms of land-use.

3. On the other hand, credits have been provided for the organisation of training courses and individual missions by specialists from various countries - especially the Southern Mediterranean countries - to the Regional Activities Centre in order to familiarize themselves with the methodology of the scenarios and to use the documentation and information available at the Centre. The up-dating of the socio-economic and environmental data and their statistical and cartographic treatment will be the object of the appropriate sub-contracts. Office and data-processing costs will be reduced to the minimum and for the most part will be borne by the host country. Finally, a financial contribution is provided for in order to ensure the commercial publication and dissemination of the Blue Plan (Main Report and specialized volumes) in the two working languages from the beginning of 1988 onwards.

4. The necessary agreements must be concluded with well-known publishers who can ensure world-wide dissemination, with the understanding that a percentage of the product of sales will be collected by them in return. Agreements could also be concluded for the translation and publication in the other Mediterranean languages. The Contracting Parties will be invited to study this matter and take initiatives or provide technical/financial support for the best possible dissemination of the Blue Plan in the various languages.

5. For 1986-1987, the total contribution of the Mediterranean Trust Fund to the Blue Plan amounted to \$ 1,365,000. In addition, the Bureau approved \$ 100,000 for publications. The contribution proposed on the follow-up of the Blue Plan for 1988-89 amounts to \$ 800,000, or 54% of the previous contribution in absolute numbers. Taking into consideration the devaluation of the dollar vis-à-vis the French Franc, it represents only 40% in real terms.

6. The counter contribution of the host country in cash and in kind, which in 1986-87 represented 44% of the contribution of the Mediterranean Trust Fund to the Blue Plan, will reach 77% in 1988-1989.

7. Following the conclusions of the meeting of the Bureau of the Contracting Parties held in Istanbul on 25 March (UNEP/BUR/28) and according to the proposed workplan, the following budget can be proposed for the 1988-1989 biennium:

PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 1988-1989

	<u>in U.S. \$</u>	
	<u>1988</u>	<u>1989</u>
1. PERSONNEL		
(a) Scientific Advisor	100,000	100,000
(b) Consultants	60,000	40,000
(c) Administrative Support		
- Mathematician (part time)	20,000	20,000
- Secretary	20,000	20,000
Component total	200,000	180,000
2. TRAVEL	50,000	40,000
3. SUB-CONTRACTS		
- Collection and Processing of socioeconomical and environmental data	50,000	40,000
4. TRAINING and MEETINGS		
- National Missions to BP/RAC	60,000	30,000
- Meeting of Senior Scientists for the analysis of BP results	-	20,000
Component total	60,000	50,000
5. EQUIPMENT	-	-
6. RENTAL AND MAINTENANCE OF PREMISES	-	-
7. OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF EQUIPMENT		
- Computer renting/maintenance	20,000	20,000
8. REPORTING COSTS		
- Miscellaneous	10,000	10,000
- Publication and distribution of the Blue Plan (English and French)	50,000	-
9. SUNDRY	10,000	10,000
GRAND TOTAL:	450,000	350,000