

Introduction

The Secretariat in consultation with the RAC Directors and the Professional staff will hold a meeting in Tunis hosted by RAC/SPA, from 26-27 February 2004.

The following annotations to the provisional agenda for the meeting were prepared by the Secretariat to assist the meeting in its deliberations.

Agenda item 1: Opening of the meeting

The meeting will be opened at 09.00 hrs on Thursday, 26 February 2004, by the MAP Deputy Coordinator, Officer in charge.

It is expected that the Meeting will tackle all items inscribed in the Provisional Agenda during its one and half-day meeting. It is envisaged to close the meeting at 14.00 hrs on 27 February 2004. The report of the meeting will be prepared by the Secretariat and sent to RAC Directors and professional staff for their comments.

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

The Provisional Agenda prepared by the Secretariat, and the RAC Directors, was distributed as document UNEP(DEC)/MED WG.246/1 and annotated in the present document.

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

Agenda item 3: Main issues from the last biennium

The Deputy Coordinator, Officer in charge will review the main issues from the last biennium left for their finalisation until March 2004.

The meeting is expected to comment and provide the necessary information as appropriate.

Agenda item 4: Main issues and expectations from the recommendations of the Catania meeting

The Deputy coordinator and RAC directors will review the major recommendations of the CPs meeting in Catania, discuss and preview necessary steps for their overall implementation.

Agenda item 5: Specific issues

a) Evaluation of RACs and MAP

The RAC directors or their representatives will report on progress made on specific evaluation and next steps.

The meeting is expected to discuss methodology and next steps for MAP evaluation.

b) ICAM Protocol

The PAP/RAC director will brief the meeting about the road map for the preparation of the new protocol on ICAM, methodology, and cooperation with RACs and other partners.

The meeting is expected to exchange views on that process

c) ; d) SAP MED and SAP BIO

The MED POL coordinator and RAC SPA director will brief the meeting about the progress achieved and efforts made for new projects and funding.

e) Strategy for the implementation of the new Prevention-Emergency Protocol.

The REMPEC will brief the meeting about the work done to consolidate the second draft "Strategy proposal" taking account of the remarks and or suggestions from the countries and EC, as well as the provisions of the Catania Declaration.

f) Strategy on Information, Awareness and Public Participation

The information officer will brief the meeting about the road map for the preparation of the strategy and expectations from MAP components.

The meeting is expected to discuss and provide relevant comments

g) Report Environment and Development

The Blue Plan Director will brief the meeting about the report Environment and Development, the meeting is expected to discuss preparation, progress and expectations.

h) MSSD/MCSD

The Deputy Coordinator will brief the meeting on the latest developments and progress made on the finalisation of the Orientations. and will give a short expose on the coming meetings as well as on the inter-sessional activities.

i) EU/MAP Cooperation

The Deputy coordinator will brief the meeting about the main issues proposed by RACs and Programs.

The meeting is expected to conclude on main issues for funding proposals and discuss necessary steps.

i) Projects to be submitted to external funding

The RACs and Programmes will brief the meeting about their proposals and priorities for external funding such as EU, bilateral agreement, other UN agencies, Azahar programme, etc.

The meeting is expected to reach a common opinion and approach in relation to MAP priorities for the present biennium with a view to moving in a coordinated way.

Agenda item 6: Discussion, conclusions and recommendations

The MEDU Programme Officer will recall the main issues and findings of the meeting. The meeting is expected to conclude on the main issues and deliver the due recommendations.

Agenda item 7 : Any other business

The meeting will discuss any other issue that might arise. The meeting is expected to comment and take note of the calendar of meetings planned for 2004, propose eventually new dates and discuss tasks and responsibilities.

Agenda item 8: Closure of the meeting

The meeting will be adjourned at 14.00 hours.

NOTE:

Items 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 (a) will be discussed during the morning session of 26 February 2004. Items 5 (b, c, d, e, f) will be discussed during the afternoon session of 26 February 2004. Item 5 (g, h, i, ,j) and 6, 7, 8 will be discussed during the morning session of 27 February 2004.
(with some flexibility depending on the discussions).

Working Sessions: 09.00 - 13.00 hrs
14.30 - 18.00 hrs

Coffee Breaks: 11.00 hrs
16.00 hrs