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MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN

13th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to
the Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean
Sea against Pollution

Catania (Italy), 11-14 November 2003

REPORT BY THE SECRETARIAT ON PROGRAMME, RECOMMENDATIONS AND BUDGET FOR THE 2004 – 2005 BIENNIUM

UNEP/MAP
Athens, 2003

CONTENTS

LIST OF ACRONYMS

BOD	Biological oxygen demand
BP/RAC	Blue Plan Regional Activity Centre
CAMP	Coastal Area Management Project
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CP/RAC	Cleaner Production Regional Activity Centre
EEA	European Environment Agency
ERS/RAC	Environment Remote Sensing Regional Activity Centre
FFEM	Fonds français pour l'environnement mondial
GEF	Global Environment Facility
ICAM	Integrated Coastal Area Management
IUCN	International Union for the conservation of Nature
LBS Protocol	Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution from Land-based Sources and Activities, 1996
MAP	Mediterranean Action Plan
MCSD	Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development
MEDA	Mediterranean Development Agreement
METAP	Mediterranean Environmental Technical Assistance Programme
MSSD	Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development
PAP/RAC	Priority Actions Programme Regional Activity Centre
RACs	Regional activity centres
REMPEC	Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea
SAP	Strategic Action Programme
SMAP	Short and Medium-term Priority Environmental Action Programme
SPA Protocol	Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biodiversity in the Mediterranean
SPAMIs	Specially Protected Areas of Mediterranean Importance
UNECE	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNEP/GPA	UN Environment Programme / Global Programme for action
WSSD	World Summit on Sustainable Development

Introduction

The 13th Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention is the first official meeting to take place in the Mediterranean region with a view of drawing lessons from the World Summit on Sustainable Development.

National delegates as well as observers will also keep in mind the recent Prestige accident and the need for better control in preventing such ecologically devastating accidents as occurred in the Mediterranean. Finally, they will also bear in mind the regional context, and more specifically, the enlargement of the European Union to some Mediterranean countries.

The agenda proposed for the meeting is in line with these concerns.

The meeting is called upon:

- To review the preparation for the elaboration of the Mediterranean strategy for sustainable development and in particular the orientations which have been drafted in this context;

- To adopt the Strategic Action Program to protect the marine and coastal biodiversity;

- To adopt new measures for the implementation of the protocol on land based sources of pollution aiming at further reducing pollution from towns, industry, agriculture, coastal areas and rivers;

- To adopt a declaration which among other important issues will encourage a stronger cooperation between MAP and the Commission and streamline the development of MAP strategy for the prevention of maritime accidents within the framework of the new Malta protocol

In conclusion, as requested by the Parties, the budget has been prepared in euros so that the Barcelona Convention will be the first UN administered Convention to use the euro currency; this, in the long-term, will provide stability to the MAP system.

I. CONTEXT OF PREPARATION OF 2004-2005 MAP BUDGET

The preparation of the 2004-2005 financial exercise was based on the following MAP priorities:

- Implementation of the Convention and Protocols including the SAP and the follow up of new issues such as Reporting and Public Participation;
- Adaptation of the Johannesburg Implementation Plan to the Mediterranean context, mainly in relation to the MCSD activities and its related sustainable development strategy;
- Contribution to projects supported by external funds such as GEF and MEDA;
- Steadiness of Contracting Parties' financial contributions; in order not to further burden their financial commitment towards MAP, the amounts allocated to activities is steady and no additional staff are proposed, with the exception of an L. post (temporary) to assist the preparation of the MSSD in the framework of the MCSD.
- Adoption of the principle of use of the Euro as the operating currency for the Mediterranean Trust Fund as decided by the Contracting Parties in Monaco in November 2001;
- Entry of the State Union of Serbia and Montenegro in MAP's framework.

In particular, concerning the use of the Euro, steps were made as follows:

- Adoption of the Euro as the reference and operating currency for the Mediterranean Action Plan;
- Opening in May 2003 of a Mediterranean Trust Fund bank account in Euro in Frankfurt (Germany);
- Presentation of the next biennial budget to the Contracting Parties in Euro currency for its adoption - the reference budget being the budget in Euro as adopted in Monaco in November 2001;
- Notification of contributions to the Contracting Parties by UNON in Euro from now on, starting with the 2004-2005 budget.

The current budget version contains a global decrease of 2% in comparison with the approved version in 2001, due to:

a) The Contracting Parties' efforts to settle their respective prior years contributions thus decreasing the sources of financing for the next biennium;

b) The decrease of the bank interests estimate for 2003-2004, based on 2001-2002 real income of $ 525,000 – Euros 460,000;

c) The reduction of the UNEP HQs contribution from$ 100,000 to $ 40,000 for the next financial exercise.

However, at their last Focal Points meeting held in Athens in September 2003, the Secretariat was entrusted with additional activities to be implemented during the 2004-2005 biennium. They fall in three different categories:

a) With a direct budgetary impact (dealt with through internal re-allocations):

- Study the implication of introduction of the ecosystem approach principle into MAP components: its related funding (Euros 10,000) is taken from MEDPOL/WHO

activities and included in the preparation of MED POL Phase IV;
- Preparation of a strategic approach in the context of implementation of Article 15 of the Convention (Public participation): funds (Euros 15,000 per year) are taken from the Information budget.

b) Without modifications in the proposed draft budget (to be dealt with through external funding):
- Convene a yearly Focal Points meeting for REMPEC: additional external funding should be sought (Euros 50,000),
- Allocate adequate financial support for the convening of the next Contracting Parties meeting (if no offers are made by the Contracting Parties at their Meeting in Catania, Euros 50,000 could be included in the budget by the Secretariat with necessary changes),
- Open a new post for the preparation of the MSSD: a temporary L3 post would be opened for next biennium. It would be funded through a yearly non-renewable withdrawal of Euros 70,000 from the MTF revolving fund.

c) Issues for consideration
1) The assessment of possible additional funding for ERS/RAC with an extended mandate that would be proposed to the CPs;
2) The financial support needed for a renovated program on cultural heritage (100 Historic Sites);
3) MAP evaluation: to be financially assessed and submitted for approval to the Bureau.

Related recommendations I.A.7, as reviewed by the National Focal Points, are presented in document UNEP(DEC)MED IG.15/5.

Additional proposals could be made by the Secretariat in relation to above issues during the Contracting Parties' meeting in Catania.

II. DEVELOPMENTS IN THE LEGAL FRAMEWORK

The main expected developments related to the legal framework during the next biennium are related to the following:

1. Progressing towards the entering into force of the MAP legal instruments;
2. Integrating the State Union of Serbia and Montenegro in MAP activities and programs;
3. Increasing responsibilities for MAP in general and REMPEC in particular by the new Prevention and Emergency Protocol;
4. Considering liability and compensation issues with an eye on avoiding overlapping and ensuring synergy with other liability regimes;
5. Moving towards the establishing of an effective reporting system and a mechanism promoting implementation and compliance under the Barcelona Convention.

II.1 Current Status of Ratification of the Convention and Its Related Protocols

By reviewing the status of acceptance and ratifications of the amended Convention, protocols and new protocols, as at 18 July 2003, it appears that only the new SPA and biodiversity Protocol is in force. The process of ratification of the new Prevention and Emergency Protocol is nearing completion and further important progress is being made on the acceptance of the amendments to the Convention and to the two revised Dumping and LBS Protocols.

***Convention*:** 15 Contracting Parties have notified Acceptance of the amendments adopted in Barcelona in 1995. In accordance with Article 16(3) of the 1976 Convention, amendments require acceptance by three-fourths of the Contracting Parties (17 Parties) in order to enter into force.

***Dumping Protocol*:** At present 14 Contracting Parties have accepted the 1995 amendments. The amendments must be accepted by three-fourths of the Contracting Parties (17 Parties) in order to enter into force.

***Prevention and Emergency Protocol*:** At present five Contracting Parties have ratified the new Protocol. Only one additional ratification is necessary for it to enter into force.

***Land-based Sources Protocol*:** 13 Contracting Parties have accepted the 1996 amendments. Acceptance by three-fourths of the Contracting Parties (17 Parties) is required for the amendments to enter into force.

Specially Protected Areas and Biodiversity Protocol: Currently 13 Parties have ratified the Protocol, which entered into force on 12 December 1999.

***Offshore Protocol*:** This Protocol was adopted in 1994 and has been ratified by 4 Contracting Parties. An additional two ratifications are necessary for it to enter into force.

***Hazardous Wastes Protocol*:** This Protocol was adopted in 1996 and only 4 Contracting Parties have ratified it. An additional two ratifications are necessary for the Protocol to enter into force.

During the MAP National Focal Points Meeting it was reported that further progress is being made by some of the Contracting Parties that are expected to complete the ratification of some of the new protocols and acceptance of the amendments to the Convention and LBS protocol hopefully by the end of 2003 or first quarter of 2004.

Related recommendations I.A.1.1(1-4), as reviewed by the Focal Points meeting, are presented in document UNEP(DEC)/MED IG.15/5.

II.2 Towards a regional instrument on ICAM

The Twelfth Meeting of the Contracting Parties, Monaco 2001, called for the preparation of a feasibility study for a regional protocol on sustainable coastal management. This initiative was in accordance with the broader scope of the revised Barcelona Convention, which extends to the coastal region of the Mediterranean and under which the Parties "commit themselves to promote the integrated management of the coastal zones, taking into account the protection of areas of ecological and landscape interest and the rational use of natural resources" (Article 4, paragraph 3(e)).

With a view to carrying out the task the Secretariat (PAP/RAC) assembled a group of Mediterranean experts, each representing a different facet of this very complex issue, and prepared a feasibility study, presented as document UNEP(DEC)/MED IG.15/Inf.9.

The proposal of the Secretariat, related to a regional legal instrument on ICAM, that consisted on three options, was largely debated at the meeting of the national focal point, Athens 2003.

A number of representatives stressed that the existing guidelines and local legislations governing coastal area management were insufficient to cope with the rapidly increasing pressures on the Mediterranean coastal area pointing the need to have a regional instrument acceptable to all Contracting Parties.

With a view to drafting an acceptable instrument for integrated coastal area management in the Mediterranean region, and such an instrument would bring obvious added value to the body or existing legislation on the subject, the MAP NFP meeting called for the need to convene a participatory and open process that would allow for an analysis of the possible content of such an instrument step by step.

The related recommendations I.A.1.2, addressed to the Parties and to the Secretariat are given in document UNEP(DEC)/MED IG.15/5).

II.3 Liability and Compensation

The Twelfth Meeting of the Contracting Parties called upon the Secretariat to convene a meeting of experts to prepare a document on the preparation of appropriate rules and procedures for the determination of liability and compensation for damage resulting from pollution of the marine environment in the Mediterranean Sea Area.

At its meeting in Monaco in October 2002, the Bureau requested the Secretariat to organize a small meeting of legal experts for an exchange of views regarding developments in this field since the 1997 Brijuni Meeting of Government-Designated Legal and Technical Experts. The document prepared by the Secretariat is referred as UNEP(DEC)/MED IG.15/Inf.21.

At their meeting in Athens, 2003, the NFP of MAP expressed their view in favour of a need to carry out a preliminary feasibility study and a thorough investigation of the question of substance and compatibility with the other regimes to be a prerequisite for a sense of ownership by the CPs. The matter of overlapping with other regimes was a matter of concern to all. In this regards, the recommendation I.A.1.3 in document UNEP(DEC)/MED IG.15/5), as reviewed by the MAP NFP, urges the Secretariat to further examine the issue in all its

social, economic and legal complexity, before proposing specific action and making any recommendation to the Contracting Parties in this sense.

II.4 Reporting system and mechanism for promoting implementation of and compliance with the Barcelona Convention

The Twelfth Meeting of the Contracting Parties, Monaco 2001 approved the reporting format prepared by a working group and decided to start its implementation on a trial basis during the biennium 2002-2003. Six countries (Algeria, Croatia, Monaco, Spain, Tunisia and Turkey) agreed to participate in the pilot phase of the application of the reporting system and submitted their national reports.

The reporting exercise was undertaken progressively during 2002-2003 biennium and comprehensive national reports covering all sections of the reporting format have been received by participating countries.

The experienced gained during that exercise was fully shared with all Contracting Parties. On this basis, the Secretariat prepared document “Lessons learnt and recommendations drawn from the reporting exercise” submitted at the MAP NFP meting, Athens 2003, and actually presented as document UNEP(DEC)/MED IG.15/Inf.10.

Related recommendations I.A.1.4, as reviewed and amended by MAP NFP, are presented in document UNEP(DEC)/MED IG.15/5.

III. IMPLEMENTING THE JOHANNESBURG PLAN IN THE MEDITERRANEAN: PREPARATION OF THE MEDITERRANEAN STRATEGY FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND PROSPECTS FOR THE MCSD

III.1. The WSSD and the Mediterranean

MAP activities and achievements in relation to sustainable development and mainly through the MCSD have contributed to the promotion and visibility of the Mediterranean region, despite the shortcomings regarding the follow up and implementation of the recommendations and proposals for action. High expectations have been created among several MCSD members and other partners. The various sets of recommendations, the multiple workshops, the recent publications, the Strategic Review and some thematic brochures together with the launching of the preparatory process for the Mediterranean Sustainable Development Strategy, have all much contributed to MAP and MCSD's visibility, but still a lot needs to be done.

Through the WSSD preparatory process, the Secretariat has been associated to the three UN Regional exercises [Europe, West Asia and (North) Africa]; and MAP has contributed to the preparation of the UNEP GEO III report. With the active support of several MCSD members, the notion of "Mediterranean Agenda 21" was introduced in the WSSD Plan of Implementation; moreover, an important Mediterranean Side Event was organized at the WSSD.

The WSSD process has provided a good opportunity for the preparation of a series of publications intended to provide the wide public with the state of the art about MAP's commitment towards sustainable development in each of its main fields of activity; in particular, these concern: Sustainable Development in the Mediterranean Region, Revision of MAP Legal Framework, Cleaner Production and Pollution, Maritime Accidents and Illegal Discharges, Coastal Management, and Mediterranean Biodiversity.

Several countries and partners were encouraged to prepare, with guidelines and support, specific environment and sustainable development brochures in their national languages as well as in English or French for wide dissemination to the public and concerned partners. A total of 14 National publications have been produced together with a specific one on NGOs, while two others are being prepared.

From the key documents approved at the WSSD, mainly the Johannesburg Declaration and the Plan of Implementation, many issues, of high interest and relevance to the Mediterranean, ought to be given due consideration by the MAP, its components and the MCSD, as well as countries and partners in their relevant future programme of work.

Among these key issues, the following ones are absolutely determinant for sustainable development in the Mediterranean, at regional, national and local levels: collective responsibility and dialogue, participatory approach and partnerships, corporate responsibility and strengthening of governance, poverty eradication, changing production and consumption patterns, addressing globalization.

Moreover, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation identifies a long list of key issues, with several of them being of great interest for the Mediterranean, as shown in the "Vision" and "Orientations" documents hereafter.

Considering the importance given to the Type II Partnership Initiatives, a Mediterranean initiative entitled "Regional Strategy for Sustainable Development for the Mediterranean: Policy and Tools" was prepared and endorsed by the UN CSD Secretariat (attached in

document IG.15/inf 8, annex IV) The main objective of this Partnership Initiative is to provide visibility and recognition to Mediterranean achievements and plans towards Sustainable Development; in fact, the Type II initiative and the preparatory process for the Mediterranean Strategy are closely related and mutually supportive. The UN network for the Type II Initiatives will be exploited for a wider information and communication about the Vision and the Framework Orientations.

Concerning the cooperation with the UN-CSD and the request by the Contracting Parties for eventually institutionalizing such cooperation, it is important to note that UNEP/MAP cannot directly attend the CSD meetings, unless through UNEP or through the Contracting Parties. If the Mediterranean case is to be presented as a specific eco-region with its characteristics and achievements, then it would be important to look for a specific accreditation through ECOSOC.

III.2. Preparatory Process

The post-Rio era has been an important period in the history of the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) during which the Governments of the Mediterranean region and the European Community, in cooperation with concerned partners, have started the process of translating and adapting UNCED principles to the Mediterranean context through the preparation of Agenda MED 21, reorientation of MAP, the Barcelona Convention and its protocols and the creation of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD).

The Johannesburg Plan of Implementation has improved the understanding of the sustainable development process and the necessary requirements and actions for the effective promotion of sustainable development. Consequently, new challenges are now in the agenda of the global community and the Mediterranean Region is expected to integrate and translate them in terms of policy and concrete actions towards sustainable development.

In this context and in conformity with the decision of the Twelfth Meeting of the Contracting Parties, based on the proposal by the MCSD and the conclusions of the Strategic Review for Sustainable Development in the Mediterranean Region, the preparatory process for the formulation of a Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development was launched during 2002 by UNEP/MAP Secretariat. This preparatory process consisted mainly of elaborating a common Regional Vision and developing Framework Orientations setting out the guiding principles for the Strategy, based on the identification of major challenges and priority actions.

Pursuing sustainable development is essentially a task of transforming governance, and preparing and implementing a sustainable development strategy could be considered as a test case for good governance. Therefore, moving towards sustainable development will require adequate structural changes in economic, social, environmental and political sectors: reforming fiscal policies, inequity and inequality of access to assets and resources, integrating environment in development policies, decoupling environmental degradation and resource consumption from economic and social development, reorienting and increasing public and private investment towards sustainable development.

Sustainable development has become an overriding national policy in most Mediterranean countries, and as there can be no "one size fits all" approach to sustainable development, each country must chart its own course in line with its specificities and priorities. But some critical sustainable development challenges are regional that require collaboration by all partners and concrete responses at local/national and regional/institutional levels.

Given the multiple transition process (economic, technological, social, institutional, informational) in a more and more globalized world, multi-stakeholders dialogue and joint actions are necessary, providing a new equilibrium between economic growth and sustained improvement in quality of life; a dynamic and constructive interaction between globalisation and decentralization should be established, especially on governance and business partners.

The challenge of realizing Mediterranean sustainable development is to translate the Strategy into concrete objectives, if possible measurable, and concrete action in openness and dialogue among authorities, citizens and experts; the active participation of all concerned actors at different levels is necessary. Adequate mechanisms and appropriate means should be identified, especially for financing sustainable development (domestic, regional and international resources, foreign direct investments, international trade, bilateral and multi-lateral cooperation).

Considering the importance of this Regional Strategy, the Secretariat has been assisted in its tasks by eminent Mediterranean experts from various backgrounds so as to cover, in an integrated way, the sustainable development pillars and Mediterranean concerns including governance. The preparatory process consisted briefly in the following: preparation of three main background studies on "Environment and Natural Resources", "Economic Development and Social Equity", and "Governance, Political and Institutional Issues", while giving due consideration to the contents of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and the Report on Environment and Development being prepared by the Bleu Plan/RAC. From relevant and constructive discussions during the workshop in March 2003, draft Vision and Framework Orientations were prepared for the consideration of the 8th MCSD meeting (May 2003). Revised versions were then prepared that are hereunder presented for the consideration of the Contracting Parties in document UNEP(DEC)/MED IG.15/10.

III.3. Common Vision for Sustainable Development in the Mediterranean Region

The Strategic Review clearly shows the progress that has been made towards sustainable development and environmental protection as well as the flaws which continue to exist, since the Mediterranean Action Plan and Barcelona Convention and its Protocols were revised in 1995. Among other key issues, the Strategic Review has confirmed the need for a common vision of the Region's future.

It is increasingly obvious that new types of growth and development which take greater account of the social well being of the entire population and of environmental concerns need to be sought. The environmental, economic and social cost to be borne in the short term by certain countries within a context of integration and liberalization which favours market mechanisms can only be acceptable if serious accompanying measures are adopted in order to cushion the impact on the least privileged sectors of society, and which will guarantee more long-term sustainability.

Although it is highly active, co-operation in the Mediterranean is affected, on the one hand, by a lack of common vision and inadequate co-ordination between the main partners currently or potentially involved and, on the other, by a mismatch between resources available for development and investments, given the scale of the tasks to be accomplished. This is exacerbated by the fact that the short-term effects of the Uruguay Round's decisions have not produced the expected results for the developing Mediterranean countries, judging by the worsening foreign trade deficit faced by most countries.

Apart from a clear political impetus, any shift towards sustainable development also requires a multi-stakeholders approach and effective partnerships to identify and put across a shared vision, which takes account of the Mediterranean peculiarities.

Translating to the Mediterranean context the global concerns as identified throughout the preparatory process for the WSSD and its Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, and bearing in mind the objectives and priorities as identified in the Mediterranean Declaration for the Johannesburg Summit, six challenges are proposed as key pillars, out of which five on which to structure the foundations of the common Vision for the Mediterranean and one that would secure their effective implementation towards sustainable development; moreover, these challenges should lead to relevant and clear commitments by all concerned partners and to the establishment of specific relevant Visions or even "contracts" that would provide the political and moral conditions to face up satisfactorily related stakes. These challenges and related "Visions" are: Development and Environment Protection, Poverty and Inequality, Innovation and Economic Entrepreneurship, Preservation of Cultural Diversity and Governance, with, for all, the necessary Peace and Security.

These challenges are in coherence with the global driving forces and stakes identified in the UNEP's Future of the World Environment, GEO-3, as they structured background for the 2002-2003 global prospective exercise.

Facing up efficiently the challenge of peace and security is highly determinant for sustainable development in the Mediterranean, and progressing positively in coping with above major challenges will contribute to the promotion of peace and security. In fact, all these challenges are much inter-related and mutually supportive.

III.4. Framework Orientations for a MSSD

Based on a common vision for the Region, a vision to be shared by all the Countries but also by the regional partners (IGOs, NGOs, civil society, business sectors), the framework Orientations should identify the guiding principles for the elaboration of the Strategy together with a limited number of stakes and issues of regional nature on which the Strategy would be structured. As far as possible and realistic, some measurable objectives would be identified, to be further recognized by the MCSD and the Contracting Parties together with concerned partners.

Preparation for the Strategy will obviously use as background information all relevant existing and accessible documents prepared by MAP as well as by other partners, regional/international institutions and civil society. As a matter of fact, information of great interest for the regional strategy exists in documents recently prepared by NGOs, private sector associations and regional programmes such as METAP and CEDARE. From within MAP, analytical information and relevant conclusions deriving from the Strategic Action Programme for Land Based Pollution and the Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (ref. to section IV of this report) together with the Mediterranean Environment and Development Report will be of particular interest. Regarding the latter that is under preparation by the Bleu Plan/RAC on behalf of MAP, information on the State of progress and expected outputs is attached in annex III, appendix II, part A, to this report. As most chapters of this regional assessment have been prepared, its finalization is expected for mid 2004, but a consistent draft would be accessible for the MSSD team from early 2004.

Moreover, considering the importance of an efficient management of the Mediterranean coastal zones for sustainable development, a regional strategy for Integrated Coastal Area Management is expected to be prepared during the next biennium together with an appropriate regional legal instrument. These would constitute an essential input to the MSSD, providing a more coherent framework for several of its priority actions; a brief note is attached for information in annex III, appendix II, part B, of this report, in addition to the two relevant documents UNEP(DEC)/MED IG.15/Inf.9 and Inf.16

Applying a systemic approach, a Sustainable Development Strategy requires new ways of thinking and working through a consensual and iterative process, involving different categories of Mediterranean actors that should commit themselves to the implementation and follow up of this shared strategy. Consistent with the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, the MSSD needs a genuinely shared political will for the establishment of adequate and efficient governance.

Two key features distinguish the Mediterranean as a Region in the global context: the wide asymmetry between its various parts, and the weakness of the economic dynamism and innovation. Closely linked, these two challenges constitute a vicious circle that maintains a relative economic sluggishness in the Mediterranean Region. Related political consciousness and answer would much determine the way in which the other challenges would be faced up: globalization, illiteracy and poverty, reforming of education sector, competitiveness in the private sector, improving management of natural resources and reducing sources of pollution, and the challenge of integrating sustainable development in Official Development Assistance and of up-grading Mediterranean cooperation.

It could ensue from this a long list of priority actions on which to structure the Regional Strategy, but considering the Mediterranean context, the few areas for priority actions for a MSSD could concern: sustainable management of water, energy, air pollution, tourism, transport, management of marine and coastal zones, management of urban development. This list could be slightly reviewed when launching the preparation of the Strategy, assessing related knowledge and needs. Obviously related activities would require awareness and capacity building, participatory approach and adequate financial means.

The Regional Strategy, even though prepared by and in the framework of UNEP/MAP, should concern the whole Mediterranean and its actors. This was recently confirmed by the decision of the 2nd Euro-Mediterranean Ministerial Conference on the Environment (Athens, July 2002), considering that the Barcelona Convention/MAP framework is the appropriate context to deal with a regional Sustainable Development Strategy in the Mediterranean.

Consequently, these Orientations and then the Strategy should be endorsed not only by the Contracting Parties and the MCSD members including the major NGO networks, the regional Business associations and the Cities networks, but also by other partners such as the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership and METAP, CEDARE and the League of Arab States, UN concerned Agencies and Offices. A good indicator for that would be their active participation and contribution to the preparation of this Strategy.

The Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development, in conformity to the Orientations that would be agreed upon, would be prepared, if necessary and adequate means are made available in due time, over the whole year of 2004 and the first half of 2005. To that end, partnerships and means should be clearly identified and as far as possible secured before December 2003 or by early 2004.

A draft report on “Framework Orientations” for a MSSD is attached in document UNEP(DEC)/MED IG.15/10, for the consideration of the Contracting Parties and MAP partners, together with advice on further steps, including identifications of necessary means. These would concern the communication and “marketing” activities, the preparatory process and further implementation of the MSSD and if possible its structure and table of contents, identification of key partners and networking, and as far as possible voluntary interest and offers to contribute to the preparatory process.

III.5. Road map for the preparation of the MSSD

Soon after the meeting of the Contracting Parties, a pro-active information and communication strategy will be implemented for the Vision and the Framework Orientations so as to inform, consult with and get support from relevant partners for the preparation of the MSSD. In addition to the countries, these partners should, in particular, represent the international and regional organisations concerned with the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development in the region (mainly the EC and the UN Agencies and their regional offices/programmes), the NGOs the Business Associations, the Local Authorities. Throughout email and if possible through limited ad hoc working sessions, representatives of each of these Major Groups will be consulted for their interest and their support for the preparation of the Strategy (technical, in-cash and/or in kind, in general or specific thematic activities).

Responsible for policy and strategic issues together with general cooperation, partnerships and participatory approach, the MEDU-MCSD Secretariat will coordinate the overall preparation of the Strategy with the assistance of a professional to be appointed as soon as possible, whereas the other MAP components (Regional Activity Centres and MED POL) will elaborate as appropriate the thematic chapters that would fall under their areas of concern. However, other partners from Major Groups should also be closely associated to this preparatory process, either as an active member of a working group or as a task manager (or a co-task manager) for a given priority action.

Expected to be a pan-Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development, not just a Strategy for MAP, the following agencies and organizations should be associated more or less directly and actively in the preparation of the MSSD:

- UN-CSD, UNEP and UNDP for the relevant interpretation and application of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (JPOI) at the Mediterranean level, together with, if possible, their involvement in the preparation of some MSSD components;
- UN Regional Offices (ECE, ESCWA, ECA) and UNEP Regional Offices (ROE, ROWA, ROA), together with METAP Programme;
- European Community: European Commission, EEA and EIB
- League of Arab States and CEDARE, Adriatic Programme;
- ICC/Med and ASCAME, Medcities, MIO-ECSDE, MEDFORUM, RAED, FOE, WWF, IUCN, etc.

The preparatory process of the MSSD should be launched immediately after the meeting of the Contracting Parties, with a final draft to be ready, as far as possible, for the end of June 2005, as it is expected to be presented to the 14th meeting of the Contracting Parties in November/December 2005.

Considering the human and financial resources to be made available by the Contracting Parties through the MTF for the next biennium, period during which the MSSD is expected to be prepared and finalized, additional resources are necessary for achieving a satisfactory preparation and an acceptable output. These additional resources could be provided in various forms:

- Voluntary financial support to MAP components for undertaking MSSD related tasks;
- Secondment of young professionals to MAP components (MEDU or concerned RACs);
- Direct responsibility for leading and undertaking the tasks related to a priority area of actions or crosscutting issues;

- The organization of coordination and/or thematic working sessions and major workshops.

Finally, the preparation of the MSSD could be undertaken following the tentative path and preliminary agenda hereunder, keeping in mind that this would require a very tight organisation for which necessary contributions and means are expected to be made available in due time:

2003	
November	Approval of Vision and Orientations by the CP
November/December	Consultation with partners and working session between MAP and key partners to agree on organisation of preparatory process and respective responsibilities
2004	
January/February	Analyse available information and knowledge on each of the areas for priority actions and assess the scope and depth of the required analytical work; working session of the MSSD Steering Committee with Secretariat and main partners
February/March	Identify support Centres and partners institutions together with a proposed team leader; identify experts/consultants, as necessary, for basic studies/position papers and prepare terms of references
April/May	Presentation and review of progress at the 9th MCSD with advice on next steps, in terms of substance, organisation and means
May/June	Launching of "priority actions" for a MSSD; if possible all for the same period, with eventually a consultation meeting between the respective team leaders and support centres for more efficient cooperation and coordination
July/ November	Assessment of and proposals for the set of priority actions
December	Workshop for the presentation of first drafts, exchange between groups and preparation for integration in view of a MSSD document
2005	
January/March	Finalisation of contribution on priority actions, and preparation of preliminary draft of the MSSD
March/April	Working session between the Bureau of the Contracting Parties and the MCSD/ MSSD Steering Committees to review the MSSD first draft
May/June	Meeting of the 10th MCSD to review the draft MSSD and advice for its finalisation in view of its consideration by the Contracting parties
July/September	Finalization of the MSSD report
November	14th meeting of the Contracting Parties to consider the MSSD report and decide on its implementation process

Last but not least, coping with the above in a satisfactory manner cannot be achieved with the actual resources of MAP. Additional and voluntary contributions from partners are absolutely necessary.

III.6 MCSD Assessment and Prospects

Since the first set of MCSD recommendations was prepared and adopted by the Contracting Parties in 1997, a series of questions have been raised concerning the MCSD's methods of work, the quality and usefulness of its results, the implementation and follow-up of its recommendations and issues related to its membership and participation. It was therefore considered necessary to carry out an assessment of the organization and methods of work of the MCSD with a view to defining options for its further development and increasing its efficiency in advising the Contracting Parties and all other concerned partners on sustainable development matters.

If the MCSD has been working in conformity with its purpose and functions, it has not been able to fulfil them all in a satisfactory way, notably as regards the evaluation of the effectiveness of the follow up to the decisions of the Contracting Parties or the enhancement of regional cooperation and rationalization of the inter-governmental decision-making capacity in the Mediterranean basin for the integration of environment and development issues. Moreover, as Sustainable Development issues have been put higher on the agenda of national, regional and international institutions, new stakes have arouse and more expectations have been created.

This issue was placed on the agenda of the Seventh Meeting of the MCSD with a view to exploring and identifying a series of options for a better organized and more efficient MCSD. Considering that further discussion was necessary on this subject, a Task Force of MCSD members was established. The report of the Task Force was submitted to the Eighth meeting of the MCSD which, following strained discussions, agreed upon a set of proposals for the improvement of the MCSD, attached in annex III of this report for the consideration and approval of the Contracting Parties, whereas the document from the MCSD Task Force is in document UNEP(DEC)/MED IG.15/Inf 8, annex V for the information of the Parties.

In this context, it should be recalled that the activities related to sustainable development that the MEDU and the MCSD Secretariat are expected to carry out have continuously grown in volume without any proportional increase in resources, particularly taking into account the need to organize MCSD meetings, the inter-sessional follow-up and coordination of thematic activities, the preparation of the strategic review, the MCSD assessment and prospects exercise and the preparation of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development. In addition, the Secretariat is expected to act as a catalyst and improve cooperation between regional organizations, civil society and the major groups.

If MAP, including its MCSD, has already made many positive and constructive steps in considering economic and social issues as well as political and governance concerns in its mostly environmental programme, much more still needs to be made, mainly with regards to economic and social policy issues, regional cooperation and partnerships, as well as practical and effective strategies and policies with relevant projects to be implemented at regional, national and local levels.

Considering that the business-as-usual scenario cannot be sustainable for the MCSD, for an efficient and satisfactory operation, participation by and contribution from the MCSD members and partners should be improved, and means of the MCSD Secretariat need to be re-evaluated. In this context, the sequential and evolutionary approach deserves due consideration as it would progressively improve the situation with increased means, promote a more efficient MAP and Regional Partners cooperation, providing also a more adequate capacity to fulfil expectations and cope with mandate.

The MCSD Secretariat is also expected to coordinate the preparation and then the implementation of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development, and this major task, in addition to present ones as per the MCSD mandate, do require the urgent identification and allocation of necessary additional means to MCSD Secretariat and Support Centres, starting with a new professional person to be in charge of the coordination of the preparatory process for the MSSD.

Finally, since the 7th MCSD was postponed from October 2001 to March 2002 for reasons mainly due to the geopolitical context, the MCSD annual meetings are from now on expected to be organised around April-May; consequently, the new MCSD members representing the Major Groups, designated by the last Conference of the Parties, have only taken over at the 8th MCSD meeting in May 2003 and should be kept in function until the end of the next biennium.

III.7 MCSD thematic issues

A brief synopsis of MCSD activities related to past and present issues is presented for information in annex III appendix II of this report.

During the 2002-2003 biennium, two meetings of the MCSD were organized, together with an important workshop for the preparation of the "Orientations" to follow on the MCSD recommendations on the management of water demand. During this period, the Bleu Plan/RAC has devoted most of its resources to the preparation of the Environment and Development Report, whereas the MEDU/MCSD Secretariat has mainly focused on the preparations for the MSSD and the MCSD assessment and prospects.

Finally, in addition to the relevant MCSD recommendations already considered by the NFPs in their recent meeting in Athens, the Contracting Parties are expected to review recommendations included in document UNEP(DEC)/MED WG.15/5.

Reorientation of the "100 Historic Sites" Programme

Using the MCSD framework, a working group headed by France and Tunisia developed an outline for a working programme for the next three years and identified potential partners and resources. It was suggested that MAP could support the programme through its centres and their activities. It was further proposed that the programme would have a light structure within MAP, with some autonomy in its work and management. A small board would be established, composed of organizations that would participate over several years, and consisting mainly of cities, universities and other appropriate national and international institutions, such as the Council of Europe and UNESCO. Marseille has already expressed its interest, continuing to cooperate with and providing support to the programme. The draft programme is attached as **Annex IV** to this report.

In case the Contracting Parties would agree on the principle of such a reorientation, a governmental experts meeting, including representatives of relevant international organisations and bodies, would be convened in 2004 for the final adoption of the programme. In that case, as mentioned in chapter I of this report, necessary funds should be allocated for convening such a meeting.

IV. IMPLEMENTING THE STRATEGY FOR THE REDUCTION OF LBS POLLUTION

IV.1 Background

One of the major breakthroughs in the Mediterranean countries' efforts to combat land-based pollution, which was prompted by the signature of the revised LBS Protocol, was the formulation and adoption by the Contracting Parties in 1997 of a Strategic Action Programme (SAP) to Address Pollution from Land-based Activities.

The SAP is an action-oriented MED POL initiative identifying priority target categories of substances and activities to be eliminated or controlled by the Mediterranean countries through a timetabled schedule for the implementation of specific control measures and interventions. The SAP is the basis for the implementation of the Land-Based Sources Protocol by the Mediterranean countries in the next 25 years. The SAP represents the regional adaptation of the principles and aims of the Global Programme of Action (GPA) to address pollution from land-based activities adopted in Washington in 1995 and, in view of the approach followed, e.g. the integration of the analysis of the environmental problems together with their socio-economic and financial implications, the identification of alternative financial mechanisms, the establishment of precise targets and of a mechanism to track their implementation, it also represents a concrete follow up to the principles of the Rio Summit and a solid contribution to sustainable development. The SAP, and its reduction and phasing out targets, are also kept in full harmony with the related regional and international Conventions and programmes, such as the EU Directives and the Stockholm, Basel and LRATP Conventions.

The key land-based activities addressed in the SAP are linked to the reduction of municipal pollution, (particularly municipal wastewater treatment and disposal, urban solid waste disposal and activities contributing to air pollution from mobile sources) and of industrial pollution, targeting those activities responsible for the release of toxic persistent and bioaccumulative substances into the marine environment, giving special attention to persistent organic pollutants (POPs).

Also addressed are the release of harmful concentrations of nutrients into the marine environment, the storage, transportation and disposal of radioactive and hazardous wastes and activities that contribute to the destruction of the coastline and coastal habitats.

The adoption of the SAP and the initiation of its activities even before the entry into force of the amended LBS Protocol, is a clear indication of the increased determination of the countries to take concrete action to combat land-based pollution and, as a result, maintain and restore marine biodiversity, safeguard human health and promote the sustainable use of marine living resources.

Shortly after its adoption, the SAP was recognized by the Council of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) as an important programme dealing directly with a number of major concerns relating to international waters. As a result of this recognition, the GEF Council approved in 1998 a three-year Mediterranean GEF Project, started in January 2001, entailing a contribution of six million US$ for the realization of a number of important groundwork activities of the Strategic Action Programme that are essential for the Programme's long-term success. Additional donors, and in particular the FFEM with two million US $, METAP and ICS-UNIDO, joined the project which became an over 12 million US $ initiative. The Project is expected to concretely build the basis that could ensure the long-term implementation of the SAP objectives in the countries of the region.

IV.2 Main achievements in the implementation of the SAP

Following the adoption of the "Operational Document" by the Contracting Parties in Monaco in 2001, the concrete launching of the activities of the SAP actually coincided with the initiation of the GEF Project. The GEF and donors funds in fact allowed the Secretariat to prepare a complete and meaningful package of activities aimed at building the foundation on which countries could base the long-term fulfillment of the SAP objectives and targets.

Considering in fact the "operational" vocation of the SAP, i.e. a Programme aiming at accompanying the countries in a concrete process of reduction of pollution, the main goal of the first two years of implementation of the SAP was to prepare the technical and policy background (nine Guidelines and four regional plans presented to the regional communities of scientists and policy makers, reviewed and amended) and implementing a large capacity building programme (4 regional, 4 national and 2 sub-regional training courses) that could be used by the Governments for the formulation of National Action Plans. The Plans are expected to describe the politically backed process of reducing pollution, including technical and financial means and deadlines.

As stated above, the key issues of the SAP are the reduction of municipal and industrial pollution. The first two years of implementation of the SAP focused on those two subjects with specific activities.

Concerning municipal pollution, the central and direct role of the Governments in the mitigation of this type of pollution (i.e. the construction of sewage treatment plants) was recognized when planning the activities. It is in fact evident that the responsibility for the major investments mostly related to the constructions of plants lie within national priorities and the possible direct contribution of international organizations and programmes is obviously limited. However, in planning the specific activities of the SAP in this very important field, it was felt that the SAP could still play a very important role in implementing capacity building programmes (for managers and technicians) and in attempting to create the right policy, legal and financial conditions, including contacts with stakeholders and donors, thus facilitating possible investments.

About 300 technicians and managers were trained on the different aspects of municipal pollution management (operation and management of waste water treatment plants) in the course of regional and national activities. The list of pollution hot spots already prepared in 1997 was revised and updated thus providing a better and more complete view of the areas where urgent interventions are needed. In addition, in the framework of the GEF Project, a number of pre-investment studies (many of them related to municipal pollution) were launched in eleven countries with a view at highlighting to national authorities both the need to intervene and the nature and the cost of the interventions. Pre-investment studies are also being used for attracting partners and donors in investments and joint ventures. In this respect, a Donors Committee is being created to follow the long-term implementation of the SAP, to identify needs and stimulate contacts among stakeholders.

Concerning the reduction of industrial pollution, the Secretariat feel that basic steps were made towards that objective during the first two years of implementation of the SAP. First of all, in the framework of a long and largely participative process (many international and government-designated experts involved, several regional and national meetings held) a methodology for the calculation of the "national baseline budget of emissions and releases" as at the year 2003 was prepared, tested and included in a software. The figures that are being actually compiled, country by country and industrial complex by industrial complex, will represent the starting point from which the reduction in percentage of pollutants' inputs will have to be achieved according to the targets and timetable of the SAP. Half of the countries have already completed the task that is expected to be finalized in the entire region by the

end of the year. Guidelines were prepared and widely distributed for guiding the countries in the use of the baseline budget. In particular, in assisting the planning of the pollution reduction policy that each country will have to formulate, the Guidelines take into full account the efforts that some industries have already made in order to have their releases within the existing national legislation, e.g. through the use of BAT and BEP or cleaner technologies and processes. With the assistance of CP/RAC in Barcelona, a methodology was also prepared to track the reductions which will be achieved by the countries. The Secretariat feels that the preparation of the baseline budget is a fundamental step towards the implementation of the objectives of the SAP and the provisions of the LBS Protocol.

The next basic step which is expected to bring concrete results is the preparation of National Action Plans for the reduction of land-based pollution. The process, already initiated through the preparation of the Baseline Budgets and of National Diagnostic Analyses (finalized in almost all countries) was carefully planned and included the preparation of Guidelines accompanied by a wide capacity building programme and regional and national meetings. The establishment of Inter-Ministerial Committees –already in place in many countries- was foreseen in view of the multidisciplinary aspect of the SAP and will facilitate the process that should result in Plans with a full political back up and with precise targets and timetables. All the technical Guidelines prepared as well as the Regional Plans should be made full use of and should substantially assist the countries in the process.

Last but not least, a draft reporting system for the evaluation of the effective implementation of the SAP at the regional and national levels was prepared, discussed with national experts and managers and is now ready to be tested (document UNEP(DEC)/MED IG.15/Inf.11). The system, after its testing period, will be incorporated into the wider MAP reporting system.

In this framework, large efforts were also made to better integrate the monitoring activities into the SAP. Monitoring can in fact play an essential role and can accompany countries in assessing and following the state of the marine and coastal environment during the process of pollution reduction. Monitoring can therefore assess trends in pollution and at the same time assess the effectiveness of the measure taken. As a result, in preparing national monitoring programme, efforts were made to link the activities to the hot spots and to prepare the integration of the data coming from the preparation of the Baseline Budgets of releases into the MED POL data base.

IV.3 Updating of the SAP

The SAP was formally adopted by the Contracting Parties at their Meeting in Tunis in 1997. On that occasion, the Parties also agreed that, in spite of the fact that such Programme was directly linked to the 1996 amended LBS Protocol not yet in force, related activities could nevertheless start being implemented while awaiting the entry into force of the Protocol that would make the SAP legally binding as well. The SAP is therefore a text of legal value that will eventually be fully enforced by the Parties. It is therefore obvious that the targets and deadlines indicated by the SAP are particularly important. In this connection, considering the date of adoption of the SAP (1997), the actual launching of its implementation (2001) and the very rapid international, regional and national legal and technological developments, it was felt that the targets and deadlines indicated in the SAP do require a process of continuous verification and updating.

As a result, the Meeting of the Contracting Parties held in Monaco in 2001 agreed on a methodology that would keep the SAP continuously and almost in real-time updated and that would avoid the process of *una tantum* updating that would risk to see, in a short time period, the programme again obsolete. The Parties in fact agreed that at each Contracting Parties

Meeting, i.e. every two years, the Secretariat would review the work plan of the SAP and the deadlines related to the biennium and would examine and propose, as appropriate, their possible updating on the basis of the technological and policy developments. As a concrete example, two regional plans, respectively, for the reduction of 50 percent inputs of industrial BOD by the year 2005 and for the reduction by 20 percent of the generation of hazardous waste by the year 2007 are now proposed for adoption by the Contracting Parties with a change of date to 2010 on the basis of discussions and review with national experts and authorities and the prevailing situation in the region.

In parallel to the continuous process of verifying and possibly updating the targets and deadlines described above, the SAP foresees a review of the methods of implementation and approaches every five years. That ensures the continuous harmonization of the over all philosophy of work of SAP with other international programmes and agreements, such as the GPA, the European Commission and others.

IV.4 Activities and Recommendations for 2004-2005

On the basis of the substantial preparatory work carried out during the biennium 2002-2003 with the assistance of the GEF Project, the coming biennium will insist on the operational aspects of the SAP and is expected to see the further steps implemented in the process of pollution reduction.

The most important activity that the biennium is expected to witness is the preparation of National Action Plans. With the assistance of the GEF Project, the Plans should be prepared during 2004 and be operational by 2005 with the highest possible level of political commitment in the countries. They should incorporate and make use of all the Guidelines and Regional Plans that were prepared and should include specific targets and deadlines. Financial means to achieve the indicated action should also be described. Specific Guidelines for the preparation of National Action Plans were prepared by the Secretariat and were widely discussed and circulated. It should be mentioned that the work carried out in the countries for the preparation of the reports and documents leading to the formulation of National Action Plans (Baseline Budget, National Diagnostic Analysis, Guidelines, Regional Plans) has been largely participatory and has included many national experts and authorities, national meetings, workshops and training courses. In the opinion of the Secretariat, this should ensure the full countries' ownership of the process and a widely spread knowledge of the SAP and its objectives within the countries, which are key elements to ensure the long-term success of the Programme. In addition, a specific regional training course for national authorities in charge of the preparation of the National Action Plans will be organized at the beginning of 2004.

Among the issues that National Action Plans should include, according to the SAP work plan, is the reduction of the inputs of industrial BOD by 50 per cent and the reduction of the generation of hazardous wastes in industrial installations by 20 per cent. As stated earlier, the dates for such reductions, respectively, 2005 and 2007 in the original SAP adopted in 1997, are now proposed to be shifted to 2010. Related recommendations (II.A.1.2 and II.A.3) as proposed to the Contracting Parties for adoption are contained in document UNEP(DEC)/MED IG.15/5.

IV.4.1 The plans to reduce industrial BOD and the generation of hazardous wastes

The Regional Plan for the reduction of 50% of BOD from industrial sources (document UNEP(DEC)/MED IG15/6) was elaborated on the basis of recent data provided by the

countries themselves in the framework of the preparation of the updated report on pollution hot spots. As a result, the plan addresses the sources of BOD in hot spots only. The 50% reduction from industrial sources is based on the egalitarian approach which would mean that every country would reduce 50% of BOD from the identified sources.

The predominant industries contributing to the direct and indirect discharge of BOD in the Mediterranean countries are food and food processing industries (about 15 percent of all industries), followed by textile, leather, fertilizers, chemicals, and pulp and paper (each between 7 and 8 percent of all industries).

The current industrial BOD discharges from hot spots into the Mediterranean are estimated at about 410,000 tons per year. This figure is based on available data provided in the national reports on the hot spots and on scientifically agreed standard values used for the industries present in each hot spot.

Although the SAP considers pollution prevention and cleaner production as the main concepts to be applied to reduce pollution, the regional plan does not make an estimate of the cost of the reduction by the application of these two concepts due to the lack of sufficient information. The plan proposes end-of-pipe technology as alternatives for reduction and includes an estimation of the cost of reduction for each country.

The plan was reviewed by regional experts, national authorities and MEDPOL National Coordinators during their meeting in Sangemini in May 2003. The approach proposed by the Plan, now presented to Contracting Parties for adoption, was approved with a request to the Secretariat to update the available data and information on the basis of the data that will be provided by the countries through the preparation of the national Baseline Budget of releases being finalized.

The Regional Plan for the reduction of 20% of the generation of hazardous waste from industrial installations (document UNEP(DEC)/MED IG.15/7) was prepared by the Regional Activity Center for Cleaner Production (CP/RAC) in Barcelona on the basis of data provided by the countries themselves through a questionnaire and an inventory developed by MED POL, in addition to other international and regional sources.

The estimated total amount of hazardous wastes generated by the 20 MAP countries is in the range of 20 millions of tons per year. The Plan includes data on hazardous waste generation both according to the type of waste generated, and to the industrial sector generating them. Although the Plan identifies priority sectors and types of waste in each country, some regional priorities are indicated as well (for the sectors, metal, inorganic and organic chemical industries and, for the wastes, oil refining sectors, used mineral oils and surface treatment).

Regional experts, national authorities and CP/RAC Focal Points reviewed the Plan during their Meeting in Barcelona in June 2003. The approach proposed by the Plan, now presented to the Contracting Parties for adoption, was approved with a request to the Secretariat to update the available data and information on the basis of the data that will be provided by the countries through the preparation of the National Baseline Budget of releases being finalized.

IV.4.2 The approach of reduction

In order to reduce 50 percent of industrial BOD and 20 percent of hazardous wastes generation in the Mediterranean Region by 2010, the Regional Plans basically propose the following approach:

- To reduce 50 percent of industrial BOD and 20 percent of current hazardous waste generation factors through the adoption of BAT and BEP, cleaner production principles and end-of-the-pipe interventions as appropriate and economically feasible.
- To achieve the overall target reductions through an equal allocation among MAP countries.
- To include the reduction targets into National Action Plans that will be elaborated in each MAP country.

Actions at the national level are the key ones to effectively achieve a relative 50 percent reduction of industrial BOD and 20 percent reduction of hazardous waste generation by 2010. They are proposed to be developed as follows:

1. To take into full account the national Baseline Budget (BB) of releases as at the year 2003 to determine the current input of industrial BOD and the current hazardous waste generation factor.
2. To take into full account the National Diagnostic Analysis (NDA) to identify priority action in order to achieve the reduction targets of the baseline pollution and to include such action in the National Action Plans that should in line with SAP objectives and targets.
3. By 2010, to reduce industrial BOD and the generation of hazardous wastes in the industrial sites not yet complying with national, regional or international standards.
4. When elaborating the NAPs, to establish a set of mechanisms to encourage the adoption of cleaner production actions leading to reduction of industrial BOD and the generation of hazardous wastes: capacity building and dissemination of information, voluntary agreements, minimization plans, integrated pollution prevention and control, economic instruments, etc.
5. To ensure that all new industrial installations built after the year 2003 (reference year for the calculation of the baseline budget of emissions) comply with existing national, regional or international standards.
6. To take into full account the capacity building opportunities which will be provided by the SAP (through MED POL and CP/RAC) for the long-term application of the Regional Plans.

IV.5 Future prospects

The adoption of the SAP was objectively a turning point in the fight against land-based pollution that started in 1980 with the signature of the first LBS Protocol and was re-tuned in 1996 with the signature of an amended Protocol.

Almost six years have gone since the formal adoption of the SAP and two years ago the concrete operational details for its implementation were discussed and approved by the Mediterranean countries. A lot has been said on the importance of this programme, the potential impact on the pollution of the region and many reports have been prepared on the specific activities carried out so far. However, it would be useful at this stage, beyond all those words and paper, to examine the concrete chances of success of the SAP that has to be considered an effective opportunity for the countries of the region to actually achieve a process of reduction of pollution.

At the first glance, the results achieved so far are very important and promising. The injection of funds operated through the implementation of the Project financed by GEF,

FFEM and other donors has been very effective: one by one all the countries are preparing their National Diagnostic Analysis (NDA) and are calculating, by source and by type, the amount of pollution released (the baseline budget of releases (BB). Those are fundamental steps, together with the strengthening of the national legal and institutional aspects, on which to base the preparation of National Action Plans (NAP). In the NAPs, due during next biennium, countries are expected to show how and with what means they intend to fulfill the SAP objectives and targets during the next ten years.

However, considering the long-term character of the SAP (25 years), one could say that only a very small part of the programme has been implemented and that the "pollution reduction" process is far from being concretely initiated. Undeniably true, but the importance and the rather innovative character of the activities carried out so far, and also the very active, in some case enthusiastic, participation of the countries, adds value to the first achievements of the programme. In addition, the preparation of the technical, scientific and policy basis for the long-term implementation of the SAP –that has been fully achieved during this first phase- is a first indispensable step if you want to hope in a successful programme.

One issue however remains with still many question marks, which is probably the key to the success of the SAP and to the preservation of the environment of the region. Are the countries and the other stakeholders ready to put on the table adequate funds for the necessary interventions? The question, certainly not new and widely debated, has been on top of everybody's mind since the formulation of the SAP and has even put in doubt the credibility of the whole programme. The main and first answer to the question is obviously that Governments have to put the environment on top of their agenda. But everybody knows that it is not always possible in times of generalized economic difficulties as today, with many other priorities existing in both developed and developing countries. So, no hopes? There are indeed hopes.

The first and more obvious hope is to eventually see more public funds invested by Governments for the environment. However, in addition to that, there are complementary ways to seek for alternative sources and external funds. The SAP itself indicates the cost of the necessary interventions and lists the main financial instruments available in the region. In addition, one component of the GEF Project was dedicated to the economic dimension of the SAP and case studies were carried out in a number of countries to identify innovative and alternative financial instruments. This initiative is also being followed by some projects jointly prepared with the Global Programme of Action (GPA) Coordination Office of UNEP where the creation of a multilateral mechanism to prepare and review projects and seeking funds is being studied. Another line is the Euro-Mediterranean partnership which could offer concrete help for specific interventions such as the modernization of the obsolete industrial complexes. Public/private partnerships could also play a fundamental role. Last, but surely not least, negotiations have already initiated with the GEF Secretariat for the elaboration of one or more additional projects that this time could possibly involve more substantial funds for the actual implementation of the SAP by the countries.

However, in the specific field of pollution reduction in industry, some steps could be made immediately at often at a very low cost and, in many cases, with quick and visible results, through the application of Best Available Techniques (BAT) and Best Environmental Practices (BEP). Considering that the concept of BAT in particular includes the promotion of continuous improvement of the industries' performance, the application of BAT could automatically ensure a progressive reduction of the generation of solid, liquid and air emission in the region. In view of the very positive cost/benefit ratio, large efforts are being made to make the Mediterranean industry aware of such opportunities including training on the practical application of BAT and BEP.

In conclusion, although the region is hoping to witness larger economic efforts by the Governments for the environment, some opportunities for alternative sources of financing do exist and should be fully exploited. We believe that the political will of the Governments, the awareness of the need to concretely reduce pollution, a more concrete and public/private partnership and the assistance of the international community could be the right mixture for making the National Action Plans adequate and viable towards concrete interventions. On the side of the Secretariat, more and more attention will be given to the financial dimension of the activities proposed, to ensure that what is eventually adopted by the countries is actually feasible.

V. BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY AND SPECIALLY PROTECTED AREAS

Maintaining the productivity and biodiversity of important and vulnerable marine and coastal areas is one of the objectives set out by the Plan of Implementation adopted at the Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development. In the Mediterranean region, the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention had already confirmed their commitments to cooperate for the conservation of the natural heritage of the Mediterranean coastal zone. This was by adopting in 1995 the Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean, which offers a suitable framework for coordination, complementarities, exchanges of experience and solidarity.

Many aspects of the Mediterranean action in the field of conservation of marine and coastal biological diversity could serve as a model for other parts of the globe. However, the praiseworthy initiatives and efforts of the Mediterranean countries to preserve the natural heritage have not so far been sufficient to lessen the decline of species and the degradation of marine and coastal habitats. The rich species and ecosystem diversity of the marine and coastal zone in the Mediterranean faces serious threats due to growing human exploitation of natural resources. For most of the Mediterranean countries, the pressure connected to human activity is to a great extent concentrated in the coastal zone.

In addition to the impact of anthropogenic threats, Mediterranean biological diversity is increasingly subject to the effects of global phenomena, such as the effects of the global warming, whose impacts could be felt at the level of species and ecosystem balance. In certain cases, such global phenomena could worsen the impact of other local or regional threats.

Moreover, There are obvious gaps with regard to scientific knowledge in the biology and ecology of populations, species and habitats. This lack of data makes difficult taking the appropriate steps to guarantee the long-term conservation of the elements that make up the area's marine and coastal biodiversity.

In order to address all the above-mentioned problems, several different, (though inter-complementing), activities are being carried out within the Protocol framework: assistance to countries on issues related to SPAs; formation and capacity building; public information; development of a Mediterranean initiative on taxonomy; collection of data and monitoring; collaboration with other organisations; as well as scheduled activities for the protection of threatened species or habitats (Action Plans).

Some of the main activities regarding biodiversity preservation for the next biennium are developed below: SAP BIO project; the Action Plans, both current and new ones; and the SPAMIS system.

The Contracting Parties are expected to embark on a general debate on the main issues related to Mediterranean biodiversity.

V.1 SAP BIO

As far as biodiversity conservation is concerned, the next biennium of the Mediterranean Action Plan is expected to be particularly crucial, since the Mediterranean countries and the relevant IGOs and NGOs will start then implementing the Strategic Action Plan for the Conservation of Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean Region (SAP BIO). The Strategic Action Plan for Biodiversity is presented in document UNEP(DEC)/MED IG.15/9.

SAP BIO is the result of a long process of assessment and consultation that took place during the years 2001 and 2002 in all the Mediterranean countries that are Parties to the Barcelona Convention. This process consisted in an assessment at national and regional level of Mediterranean coastal and marine biodiversity, based on existing data. Most international and/or regional Organizations concerned with the topics of SAP BIO were closely involved and provided significant inputs to SAP BIO.

The principal objective of SAP BIO is establishing a logical base for implementing the 1995 SPA Protocol. That means providing the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention, international and national Organizations, NGOs, donors and all other actors involved in the protection and management of the Mediterranean natural environment, with principles, measures and concrete and coordinated actions at national, transboundary and regional level for the conservation of the Mediterranean marine and coastal biodiversity. SAP BIO is also intended to facilitate the application, at Mediterranean level, of the provisions of the Jakarta Mandate of the Convention on Biological Diversity, as well as the best available knowledge and approaches, such as the ecosystem approach and the precautionary principle. Furthermore, being in line, in its objectives, with the recommendations and approaches of the Johannesburg Summit, SAP BIO will allow the Mediterranean countries to guarantee a high level of sustainability in the use they make of biological diversity as well as fulfilling their obligations towards the pertinent international agreements.

SAP BIO advocates concrete actions and recommends practices aiming to:

- reduce causes (lowering the stress), and modifying the conditions for preventing or mitigating impacts that are harmful for maintaining biodiversity
- promote sector-based bioconservation-friendly policies, procedures and techniques, particularly as regards fishing, tourism, agriculture and forestry
- identify gaps, uncertainties and trends in scientific knowledge
- strengthen, update or improve the important legal structures
- train and improve the ability to elaborate and implement strategies
- integrate SAP BIO actions within more general regional and national decision-making contexts
- establish and/or strengthen international and inter-agency cooperation
- carry out the common actions of the centres and the important programmes of the MAP concerning the wider aspects of maintaining biodiversity
- encourage and put into effect participation actions, programmes and campaigns aimed at informing the general public and increasing its awareness about maintaining biodiversity.

The Contracting Parties are expected to review the objectives and the content of the proceed SAP BIO and proceed, as appropriate, to its adoption. Related recommendations are presented in document UNEP(DEC)/MED IG.15/5. An information note on SAP BIO is presented in document UNEP(DEC)/MED IG.15/Inf.19.

V.2 New action plans

At their Twelfth Ordinary Meeting (Monaco, November 2001), the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention invited RAC/SPA to prepare the following three new action plans: (I) Action Plan for the conservation of Mediterranean species of cartilaginous fish, (II) Action Plan for the conservation of bird species listed in the SPA Protocol and (III) Action Plan concerning species introduction and invasive species in the Mediterranean sea. Thanks to the collaboration and support of Mediterranean experts and International organisations, RAC/SPA prepared drafts of these action plans. These drafts were respectively reviewed by the NFPs for SPA and the MAP NFPs and are submitted for adoption by the 13th Ordinary

Meeting of the Contracting Parties. These drafts are presented in document UNEP(DEC)/MED IG.15/Inf.15.

V.2.1 Action Plan for the conservation of Mediterranean species of cartilaginous (chondrichthyan) fishes

About 85 cartilaginous fish species are recorded in the Mediterranean Sea. Some of them have commercial importance and have been exploited over the ages as target species or by-catch; others are very rare and may never have been common. A few species are endemic to the Mediterranean. Some Red Sea species penetrate into the eastern Mediterranean through the Suez Canal (Lessepsian migrants)

There is evidence of the important negative impact of unmanaged and irresponsible fisheries on the populations of chondrichthyan species. The most significant threats to the populations of chondrichthyan fishes are widely acknowledged: (I) unmanaged and irresponsible fishing, (II) pollution and (III) the negative impact of some littoral development. These threats affect both species diversity and abundance.

Although the Mediterranean chondrichthyan fish fauna have been studied for a long time, scientific research still needs to be undertaken to study the biology, ecology, population dynamics and status of stocks of most species. These studies are necessary to better understand their ecological role and to clarify the taxonomic status of several species.
ators and have an important trophic function in the marine ecosystem, the ecosystem approach is particularly important to understand the role of these fishes in the structuring and functioning of the ecosystems.

The proposed Action Plan is aimed at promoting: (I) the general conservation of the chondrichthyan populations of the Mediterranean, by supporting and promoting national and regional programmes for sustainable fisheries; (II) the protection of selected chondrichthyan species, whose populations are considered endangered; (III) the protection and the restoration of critical habitats, such as mating, spawning and nursery grounds.

V.2.2 Action Plan for the conservation of bird species listed in the SPA Protocol

Fifteen bird species are listed in the annexes to the SPA Protocol as endangered or threatened species, some of them are globally threatened or are endemic to the region and have an unfavourable conservation status.

Despite, the efforts made by several organisations and experts, there are still many gaps in our knowledge concerning coastal and pelagic birds and their habitats in the Mediterranean, particularly seabird movements and their distribution at sea.

The Mediterranean seabird populations show some atypic characteristics: (I) an extremely low global biomass, (II) a small number of species and (III) a high degree of endemism.

The main purpose of the proposed Action Plan is to maintain and/or restore the population levels of bird species listed in the SPA Protocol's Annex II to a favourable conservation status and to ensure their long-term conservation.

It suggests specific action plans targeting one species or a group of species. The specific Action Plans should be implemented in all the Mediterranean states where the species

breed, winter or occur on migration. They should be reviewed and updated every three years. However, if sudden major environmental changes happen, which may affect any of the species' populations where the species occur in the Mediterranean, an emergency review should be immediately undertaken.

Other ongoing Action Plans an initiatives concerning birds, which have been developed by other institutions, should be taken into consideration and implemented as appropriate.

V.2.3 Action Plan concerning species introductions and invasive species in the Mediterranean Sea

The problems resulting from the intentional or accidental introduction of non-native species are thought to be among the most important threats to biological diversity. This was confirmed at the Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development. The plan for implementation discussed at this summit asks for national, regional and international efforts to be stepped up to check invasive non-native species and encourage the development, at every level, of efficacious work programmes on invasive species.

The proliferation of non-native species at the level of a new receiver area is often called 'biological invasion', particularly when the introduced species develops in such a way as to enter into competition with native species and to cause their decline. One can also talk about a 'biological invasion' when the introduced species constitutes, because of its excessive development, a considerable hindrance to certain human activities. The economic, or even social, cost caused by the biological invasion may be very high; several cases around the world bear this out.

For the Mediterranean, the introduction of marine non-native species is a phenomenon that has long been known and studied. But it has recently grown, and certain of these species have proved invasive. Although only some of the invasive species manage to have stabilised new populations, the environmental consequences have in many cases been negative for the Mediterranean species.

The main objective of the proposed Action Plan is to strengthen the capability of the Mediterranean countries to prevent and monitor the negative effects of the species introduction, particularly by: (I) collecting reliable, pertinent scientific data that can be used for decision-making where necessary, (II) strengthening the institutional and legislative frameworks at national level and (III) setting up mechanisms for cooperation and exchange of information between the states of the Region. Given the importance of ballast water as a vector for introducing non-native species into the Mediterranean, the Action Plan recommends to develop and implement a regional project to fill in the gaps that have been noticed in this field at the level of scientific knowledge, and strengthen the abilities of the countries of the Region to reduce the transfer of aquatic organisms via ships' ballast water. For elaborating and implementing the mentioned regional project, it is necessary to work closely with the IMO and the joint GEF-UNDP-IMO ballast water management programme.

V.3 Implementation of ongoing action plans

In addition to the implementation of the SAP BIO and the above three new action plans, it is important to pursue, and where necessary strengthen, the implementation of the action plans on monk seal, turtles, cetaceans and marine vegetation. In this context, the serious state of the Mediterranean monk seal population deserves to be underlined. Considering the urgency of the matter, it is strongly recommended to hold, as soon as possible, a meeting of high-level decision-makers to put new life into the Action Plan.

V.4 SPAMI System

During the next biennium 2004-2005, special attention should be also paid to further develop the SPAMI (Specially Protected Areas of Mediterranean Importance) system. With the inclusion in 2001 of the first set of 12 protected areas in the SPAMI List, the Contracting Parties, laid the foundation for the creation of a regional network of SPAMIs. Two other protected areas are proposed for inclusion in the SPAMI List. In accordance with the provisions of the SPA Protocol, the Sixth meeting of NFPs for SPA favourably reviewed the presentation reports of these two protected areas and suggested to submit them to the Contracting Parties.

One of the challenges faced by the SPAMI system is to gain support from non-Mediterranean states and to persuade them to comply with the protection and management measures applicable to marine SPAMIs. Therefore it is recommended to investigate the most appropriate procedures for the notification of SPAMIs having marine component to relevant organisations, such as IMO (International Maritime Organisation).

VI. MAP/EC PARTNERSHIP

Since the creation of MAP, the European Community has always played an active and specific role.

- It contributes to the protection of the marine environment of the Mediterranean in country members through the enforcement of the relevant directives, more specifically on bathing water quality and wastewater treatment thus contributing to the implementation of the LBS protocol.

- It encourages the protection of the environment by new Mediterranean members through the process of compliance to the “acquis communautaire”.

- It supports, through structural funds, the creation of infrastructures aiming at promoting the environment in European Mediterranean countries (such as wastewater treatment plants in coastal cities).

- It also supports infrastructures and activities related to the improvement of the environment in neighbouring Mediterranean countries through funds like LIFE, MEDA and CARDS.

- It supports regional projects undertaken by MAP through the above-mentioned funds as well as its voluntary contribution.

- It is involved in the METAP, which is an active partner for MAP.

After 1995, the Euro Mediterranean Partnership (EMP) has given vigorous encouragement to the cooperation between the European Union and its neighbouring countries in the Mediterranean region.

The Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention have strongly supported the establishment of cooperative relations between the EMP and MAP.

In this context, following the decision of the Twelfth meeting of the Contracting Parties (Monaco, 2001), requesting the Secretariat to work out proposals for strengthening cooperation between MAP and EMP, MEDU has participated and contributed to the preparatory process of the Second Conference of the Euro-Mediterranean Ministers of the Environment which was held on 8-10 July 2002 in Athens, and attended by the President of the Contracting Parties and the Coordinator.

In conformity with the decision of the Contracting Parties, two draft reports were prepared and disseminated: one on “the experience of MAP in promoting integration of environmental concerns into sustainable development” and the other on “MAP and EMP: identifying goals and capacities, and improving cooperation and synergies”.

The importance of cooperating with MAP has been clearly and explicitly recognized and reaffirmed in the “Athens Declaration by the Euro-Mediterranean Ministers for the Environment” adopted by the Ministers.

In view of the upcoming Thirteenth Meeting of the Contracting Parties, MAP Secretariat and the Commission started exchanging views on the ways and means of strengthening and promoting a more efficient cooperation between the European Community and MAP based on the following analysis and context:

1. From a geo-political point of view, some Mediterranean countries will become members of the European Union within the next years with the admission of Slovenia, Cyprus and Malta in 2004, and possibly further admissions during the next decade.

It means that the coordination between the European environment policy and MAP has to be strengthened in view of a better harmonization while taking into account the specificity of non-European countries in terms of environmental issues, law and policy.

2. Recently, the European Community has intensified its activities, legislation and strategies in the field of marine and coastal environment mainly through the following initiatives and decisions:

- Adoption of the Framework Directive on water.
- Initiatives in the field of prevention of maritime accidents and pollution (Erika I and II packs) including new directives.
- Adoption of a strategy on European coastal zone management.
- Preparation of a European strategy for the marine environment, which paves the way for more cooperation with regional seas including the Mediterranean sea.

There is also a need to intensify the relations with the European Environment Agency.

3. Finally, the cooperation between the European Commission and MAP in the context of the Euro Mediterranean Partnership should be made more effective, having in mind the need to make the EMP a framework for sustainable development in terms of trade, tourism, energy, transport, patterns of production and consumption in the context of the World Summit for Sustainable Development and the preparation of the Mediterranean strategy for sustainable development.

Related recommendations I..A.4.1 as reviewed by the National Focal Points meeting (Athens, September 2003), are included in the document UNEP(DEC)/MED IG 15/5.

ANNEX I

STATUS OF RATIFICATIONS

Status of Signatures and Ratifications of the Barcelona Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution and its Protocols as at 1 October 2003

	Barcelona Convention 1/			Dumping Protocol 2/			Emergency Protocol 3/		New Emergency Protocol 4/	
Contracting Parties	**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	-	-	16.03.81/AC	-	-	16.03.81/AC	25.01.02	-
Bosnia & 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	13.06.03***
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	
European Community	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	-
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	-
Israel	16.02.76	03.03.78	-	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
Morocco	16.02.76	15.01.80	-	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	-
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	-
Syria	-	26.12.78/AC	*	-	26.12.78/AC	-	-	26.12.78/AC	25.01.02	-
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	-	20.05.03***
Yugoslavia	-	27.04.92/SUC**	-	-	27.04.92/SUC**	-	-	27.04.92/SUC**	-	-

Accession = AD Approval = AP Succession = SUC

*Syria notified its acceptance of the amendments to the Barcelona Convention pending notification from the depositary country.

**F.R. of Yugoslavia notified on 16 July 2002 its succession to the Convention and the Protocols as above. The date of succession is 27.04.92. On 20 March 2003, UNEP Regional Office for Europe was notified that the newly reorganised State Union of Serbia and Montenegro had become party by succession to the Barcelona Convention

***Turkey and Croatia notified their ratification of the new Emergency Protocol to UNEP/MAP pending notification from the depositary country.

	Land-Based Sources Protocol 5/			Specially Protected Areas Protocol 6/		SPA & Biodiversity Protocol 7/		Offshore Protocol 8/		Hazardous Wastes Protocol 9/	
Contracting Parties	**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	-	26.06.01	-	26.07.01
Algeria	-	02.05.83/AC	-	-	16.05.85/AC	10.06.95	-	-	-	01.10.96	-
Bosnia & Herzegovina	-	22.10.94/SUC	-	-	22.10.94/SUC	-	-	-	-	-	-
Croatia	-	12.06.92/SUC	-	-	12.06.92/SUC	10.06.95	12.04.02	14.10.94	-	-	-
Cyprus	17.05.80	28.06.88	12.10.01	-	28.06.88/AC	10.06.95	15.10.01	14.10.94	15.10.01	-	-
European Community	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	-
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/AD	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	-	-	11.09.92/AC	-	-	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	18.05.02	-	06.11.86/AC	10.06.95	18.09.02	-	-	01.10.96	-
Yugoslavia	-	27.04.92/SUC*	-	-	27.04.92/SUC*	-	-	-	-	-	-

*F.R. of Yugoslavia notified on 16 July 2002 its succession to the Convention and the Protocols as above. The date of succession is 27.04.92. On 20 March 2003, UNEP Regional Office for Europe was notified that the newly reorganised State Union of Serbia and Montenegro had become party by succession to the Barcelona Convention

1/ Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution
Adopted (Barcelona): 16 February 1976
Entry into force*: 12 February 1978

2/ The Protocol for the Prevention of Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by Dumping from Ships and Aircraft (Dumping Protocol)
Adopted (Barcelona): 16 February 1976
Entry into force*: 12 February 1978

3/ The Protocol concerning Co-operation in Combating Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by Oil and other Harmful Substances in cases of Emergency (Emergency Protocol)
Adopted (Barcelona): 16 February 1976
Entry into force*: 12 February 1978

4/ The Protocol concerning Co-operation in Preventing Pollution from Ships and, in cases of Emergency, Combating Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea
Adopted (Malta): 25 January 2002
Entry into force*:

5/ The Protocol for the protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution from Land-based Sources (LBS Protocol)
Adopted (Athens): 17 May 1980
Entry into force*: 17 June 1983

6/ The Protocol concerning Mediterranean Specially Protected Areas (SPA Protocol)
Adopted (Geneva): 3 April 1982
Entry into force*: 23 March 1986

7/ The Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean (SPA & Biodiversity Protocol)
Adopted (Barcelona): 10 June 1995
Entry into force*: 12 December 1999

8/ Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution resulting from Exploration and Exploitation (Offshore Protocol) of the Continental Shelf and the Seabed and its Subsoil

Adopted (Madrid): 14 October 1994

Entry into force*:

9/ Protocol on the Prevention of Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal (Hazardous Wastes Protocol)

Adopted (Izmir): 1 October 1996

Entry into force*:

* The amendments are not yet into force

ANNEX II

REGIONAL TRUST FUND FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA AGAINST POLLUTION (ME)
Status of contributions as at 30 September 2003

COUNTRIES	Unpaid pledges for 2002 & prior yrs	Adjustments	Pledges for 2003	Collections during 2003 for 2003 and fut. yrs		Collections during 2003 for prior yrs	Unpaid pledges for prior yrs.	Unpaid pledges for 2003 & prior yrs
Albania	25	0	3,525	0		0	25	3,550
Algeria	0	0	52,876	0		0	0	52,876
Bosnia & Herzegovina	68,913	0	15,108	0		68,844	69	15,177
Croatia	28,362	0	48,846	48,846		28,362	0	0
Cyprus	0	0	7,050	7,050		0	0	0
Egypt	165	0	24,676	0		0	165	24,841
France	0	0	1,912,057	1,912,057		0	0	0
Greece	138,714	0	141,503	141,510		138,714	0	(7)
Israel	0	0	74,024	74,024		0	0	0
Italy	47,226	0	1,579,700	1,579,700	1/	47,226	0	0
Lebanon	25	0	3,525	0		0	25	3,550
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	98,222	0	99,204	0		0	98,222	197,426
Malta	0	0	3,525	0		0	0	3,525
Monaco	20	0	3,525	3,525		20	0	0
Morocco	41,336	0	14,101	0		0	41,336	55,437
Slovenia	(33,739)	0	33,739	0		0	(33,739)	0
Spain	0	0	754,852	754,852		0	0	0
Syrian Arab Rep.	21,385	0	14,101	0		21,385	0	14,101
Tunisia	0	0	10,575	10,575		0	0	0
Turkey	0	0	113,304	113,139		0	0	165
Yugoslavia	469,976	0	0	0		0	469,976	469,976
European Union	0	0	125,894	128,120		0	0	(2,226)
T o t a l	**880,630**	**0**	**5,035,710**	**4,773,397**		**304,551**	**576,079**	**838,392**

Additional Contributions (for information only)								
European Commission	27,270	0	544,153	0		0	0	571,423
Host Country *	0	0	400,000	398,973		0	0	1,027
UNEP Env. Fund	0	0	50,000	0		0	0	50,000
T o t a l	**907,900**	**0**	**6,029,863**	**5,172,370**		**304,551**	**576,079**	**1,460,842**

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

The additional contributions are included in this report for information purposes only.

1/ Total amount received is $1,756,612.85 - balance of $129,686.85 is for CP to be completed soon - e-mail from Mr. Ben Salah of 30.06.03.

ANNEX III

APPENDIX I

A. Guidelines of the MCSD on the preparation of a Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD), submitted for attention to the Contracting Parties

The MCSD considered the revised Synthesis Report (attached), based on six experts' reports and the contributions made at the Barcelona workshop in March 2003.

1. The Commission decided that the preparatory process for the MSSD would be pursued with the aim of presenting the Strategy for adoption at the 2005 meeting of the Contracting Parties. It proposed that work should be carried out in four stages, addressing:

- a shared vision,
- the strategic orientations,
- cooperation with major stakeholders, and
- the elaboration of the regional strategy for sustainable development (with action plans and governance provisions).

2. Stakeholders should be identified and involved in the process before the strategic orientations are finalized.

3. The future work for the preparation of the Strategy should be undertaken along the following lines:

- the four stages of the preparatory process described above;
- the paper proposing a shared vision (submitted for information) with a view to meeting effectively the sustainable development challenges concerning the region. To this end, due consideration should be given to the following common values:
    - Justice and peace
    - Equity and solidarity
    - Rights of future generations
    - Mediterranean identities
    - Innovation and creativity
    - Governance, participation and responsibility.
- a constructive approach should be followed when preparing the strategy, bringing to the fore positive elements such as MAP implementation and the SAPs, as well as regional challenges, and employing balanced language on sensitive issues. The definition of sustainable development provided in the Bruntland Report (as approved by all countries) should be used as a basis in this process.

4. The following general orientations for the preparation of the MSSD were endorsed by the MCSD:

    - The Strategy should be based on effective interlinkages among and integration of the three components of sustainable development, that is economic, social and environmental, giving due consideration to the issue of governance;

- Links should be established between the long-term vision, the medium-term objectives and the short-term actions;
- Proposals should be based on an analysis of realities in the region using input from all available sources and, in particular, the report being prepared by Blue Plan on "Environment and Development in the Mediterranean", including the main trends, regional strengths and weaknesses, and geopolitical challenges;
- The Strategy should fit into the regional political context, establish links with the evolving Euro-Mediterranean Free Trade Area (EMFTA), propose ways to face the challenge of convergence and provide alternative scenarios in order to face the multiple uncertainties related to this regional political context.

5. Priority fields of action should be set out on the basis of the on-going analysis and in cooperation with the stakeholders who will be involved in the preparatory process; these priority fields of action, to be further specified, could include water, energy, industry, tourism, transport, land use, urban development and improvement of the quality of life. Work to be undertaken would promote sustainable production and consumption patterns, and identify appropriate economic development and social models taking into consideration the specific characteristics of the Mediterranean.

B. Proposals of the Mediterranean Commission for Sustainable Development (MCSD) for recommendations concerning the Commission's assessment and prospects

Eight years after its establishment, a considerable amount of work has been done by the MCSD in many fields of sustainable development, and a wide range of recommendations and proposals for action have been made. This has been a rich source of inspiration for the Contracting Parties and all the sustainable development partners in the Mediterranean. In order to make the work of the MCSD more efficient and visible, and to improve the participation of the different civil society groups, a review and assessment of the MCSD's organization and methods of work were considered necessary by Contracting Parties as well as the MCSD. Accordingly, the MCSD, at its Seventh Meeting held in Antalya, established a Task Force from among its members to consider the issue of its assessment and prospects. The MCSD considered the Task Force's report (finalized in April 2003 and attached for information) at its Eighth Meeting in Cavtat and decided to propose to the Contracting Parties that they adopt the following set of recommendations, aimed at further strengthening the Commission and refocusing its action in the post-Johannesburg era:

1. The MCSD should continue to be a think tank/high-level policy forum for identifying, evaluating and examining sustainable development issues in the region. The Commission should seek to better establish its credibility so as to extend its active dialogue with international and regional agencies and national governments, as well as all the bodies within MAP and civil society, in order to assist their work and strengthen their contribution to sustainable development.

2. To improve the efficiency and credibility of the MCSD, special attention should be given to the organization of dialogue on substantive policy issues at the annual meetings, to the progress of work of the thematic groups and to the networking of MCSD members with other stakeholders at regional and national levels.

3. Aiming to secure a more coherent regional approach on sustainable development and in line with the overall concern for improving global environmental governance, as evidenced by UNEP's Cartagena Agreement on governance and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, MEDU is urged to act as a catalyst

and renew initiatives for the establishment of an informal Interagency Platform in the Mediterranean in consultation with the regional offices of agencies active in the region on sustainable development issues.

4. The recommendations and proposals for action of the MCSD should not be restricted only to formal approval by the Contracting Parties (CPs), which have the major responsibility to deliver. The MCSD Secretariat, with the support of other MAP bodies, through external resources if necessary, should elaborate on the strategic recommendations and proposals for action, making them more explicit and strengthening them with detailed guidelines. Implementing the recommendations and proposals for action remains the responsibility of governments at all levels in cooperation with other stakeholders. Follow-up responsibility should mainly be entrusted to MEDU, which should also encourage all MAP bodies to integrate such recommendations and proposals for action in their regular activities and programmes of work, including in their mainstream reporting requirements.

5. The Commission will periodically review and assess implementation of its recommendations and proposals for action. In order for the MCSD to be enabled to fulfil this function, the following should be adopted:

- The MCSD Secretariat should prepare a common reporting format, following the Commission's Programme of Action, in consultation with CPs.
- The MCSD Secretariat, on the basis of short voluntary reports from governments and the other actors on progress made with regard to the Commission's recommendations and proposals for action, should prepare a concise report on implementation and submit it to the MCSD.
- The MCSD should review the report, assess progress made, formulate its findings and suggestions concerning implementation and submit them to the meetings of the CPs for further consideration.
- Selected working groups could reconvene from time to time in order to assess the results of the periodic monitoring of the implementation of their recommendations and proposals for action.

6. The Commission's composition is its main strength and any changes should maintain its open, autonomous, advisory and representative nature, with members that are informed experts from various sectors and civil society in general. The MCSD should continue to consist of 36 members, with 15 seats allocated for the non-governmental sectors, on the basis of a flexible, broad and representational approach (e.g. trade unions, federations of professionals, consumer groups, women, youth, etc); members proposed by non-governmental partners should accept that they have a responsibility to consult with the sectors they represent on any particular issue.

7. To each session two to three ad hoc members could be invited, having special competence in the matters included in the agenda of a meeting.

8. The Commission will hold ordinary meetings once every year, to last for three days and consider a limited number of issues each time. In its working methods, the Commission and its groups should be encouraged to fully utilize the potentials offered by modern technology. The practice of holding meetings in various countries will be maintained, but proposals to host such meetings should be accompanied by a substantial contribution of the host country towards the logistics of the meeting.

9. The reasons that restrict the effective and active participation of some groups should be addressed through direct contacts with the organizations concerned so as to allow all groups to take advantage of, and contribute to, the opportunities and challenges offered by the setting up of the MCSD.

10. Representatives of the various agencies to MCSD meetings should be invited not only to MCSD meetings, but also, on the basis of the relevance of the issues to their interests, to meetings of working groups, participating with equality of interaction as stakeholders.

11. Every effort must be exerted to establish connections with the Type II Initiatives launched either in Johannesburg or later which are of special interest to the Mediterranean. The Commission should also strongly encourage its members to develop additional partnership Initiatives guided by the "Bali criteria" for the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) partnerships.

12. The MCSD proposes to the CPs that they mandate the MAP Coordinator to identify, through outside professional advice, the appropriate means required for the MAP structure, including the MCSD, to successfully respond to the requirements for the promotion of sustainable development at regional level and make appropriate recommendations thereon to the CPs.

13. A clear distinction should be maintained between the functions of the MCSD Secretariat (coordination, policy and strategic issues, etc) and the function of the RAC support centres (basically for "thematic issues" and related activities including some kind of follow-up). All RACs are encouraged to refocus their programmes more on sustainable development issues and act as support centres for the scientific and technical aspects of the MCSD's "thematic" activities.

14. The potentials offered by current manpower resources and relevant arrangements within MEDU should be fully utilized, with outside professional advice if necessary, in order to give greater visibility not only to the MCSD but to MAP itself, as an integral part of a structured communications strategy.

15. A multi-stakeholder fund-raising strategy should be developed as an integral part of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development under preparation within MCSD/MAP.

16. At its 2004 session, the Commission should adopt a Programme of Work for the period 2005-2015, based on the priorities of relevant global, regional and national initiatives, such as the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development (UNCSD) and national commissions on sustainable development, as they relate to the Mediterranean specificities.

ANNEX III

APPENDIX II: PROGRESS

A. REPORT ON THE ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION: STATE OF PROGRESS AND EXPECTED OUTCOMES

On behalf of MAP, the Blue Plan is presently finalising the report on the environment and development in the Mediterranean region. It will be sent to the Contracting Parties early 2004 for review; its finalization and publication is expected for the summer of 2004.

The drafts of 5 chapters (energy, water, transport, cities and rural space) have already been finalised in English and French through the efforts of several specialists and with the support of a steering committee. The coastline chapter together with the introductory chapter on the major dynamics in the Mediterranean, and the concluding chapter (a summary on the risks of the trend scenario and the possible evolutions towards an alternative scenario), are under preparation.

Analysis of the past and possible future developments up to 2025 confirms the magnitude of the changes affecting the region and certain signs of non-sustainability already identified by the first Blue Plan Report. Generally speaking the region is still rather close to the "worst trend scenario" as outlined in 1989. In particular the region is still characterized by: the lack of regional stability and co-operation (especially South/South), economic fragility, insufficient development and the continuing development gap between the two shores and resource- and environmentally-costly socio-economic developments (water, energy and space). The degradation observed on certain highly valuable resources (the cementing up of the coastline, the loss of farmland, the degradation of soils, the loss of biodiversity and landscape degradation, the degradation of water resources, and so forth) are partly irreversible and account for already very high costs to Mediterranean societies and economies. The report shows that most of this degradation and the resulting costs and risks will probably increase noticeably between now and 2025.

Nonetheless there are visible signs of progress in accordance with Blue Plan's alternative scenarios of 1989. The rapid convergence of fertility rates between the two shores is of considerable significance for the future of the Mediterranean. The implementation in 1995 of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership was an important step in the structuring of North/South co-operation. Its strengthening will be vital for helping the region engage in a positive way in globalisation. The policies of several Mediterranean countries have evolved, and a series of examples of good practices shows the real possibility of better integrating the environment and development into the Mediterranean context. Sustaining such progress would make it possible for the region to modify the trend scenario.

The report tries to point up the obstacles to change, the feasibility of certain modifications and the considerable benefits that could result from them for the countries and the region as a whole. Modifications are possible and necessary in the following six main fields that must also be seen as major challenges to be met for the whole region:

- The rational use of water and energy through the redirecting of policies (encouraging demand-management policies) would make it possible to produce substantial financial savings, reduce environmental impact and limit the vulnerability of supply and to realise significant margins of economic growth. Thus, for example, nearly 20 per cent of the energy demands forecasted for 2025 (or some 200 Mtoe, or half of the growth forecasted from now to 2025) could in fact be saved, which would mean a cumulative 455 billions euros for 25 years, 860 Mt of CO_2 emissions avoided, hundreds of thousands of jobs created, less geopolitical dependence and 154 power

plants not built (a large percentage of which would be on the coastline). The report also shows the importance of promoting renewable energy sources, especially solar energy, the region having real potential and capable of developing new, progress-conveying specialisations.

- Sustainable rural development is a goal that is just as essential, given the scale of rural poverty and the serious phenomena of desertification in the South and East, the high risks of accrued environmental degradation and instabilities that could result from liberalising trade or acriculture developments and the importance of the stakes involved in safeguarding and valorising Mediterranean diversity. Analysis and examples of good practices and policies show that it would be possible to reverse these negative trends and to valorise Mediterranean "know-how".

- Given the magnitude of the economic and environmental issues involved, the development of transport appears to be an especially prickly problem. The report looks into path for limiting an exponential increase in mobility (uncoupling) and for promoting less costly and less risky means of transport (not only surface but also maritime transport).

- Other ways are also suggested so that future urban growth be better integrated into the Mediterranean environment, less wasteful of space and better managed on the impact and risk levels especially for the management of waste and air pollution, etc…

- A certain re-orientation of tourism also seems vital for making it more compatible with the philosophy of sustainable development. Different tools are presently being tested to contribute to these necessary developments. Some examples show that it is possible to manage the mass seaside tourism with more respect for the environment or to positively diversify tourist destinations (cultural, urban and rural tourism).

- Last but not least, protecting the coastline and the sea is still a major challenge that has to be met, given the increased pressures forecasted up to 2025. If an integrated management of the coastline appears to be the ideal goal to meet, only reinforcing protective measures and tools will make it possible to avoid the very serious degradation of Mediterranean coasts and coastal ecosystems forecasted and to better reconcile the imperatives of both conservation and development.

The report calls for anticipation in order to build an acceptable future and to avoid a passive scenario and the ever-growing costs that would go with it. On the basis of the Mediterranean experience, the report explores the broad outlines of a volontarist alternative scenario of greater economic, environmental, social and regional efficiency in order to build a greater Mediterranean "pole" in the world equilibrium, especially through closer links between its shores. Yet it shows the magnitude of the obstacles to overcome and the need for major changes in the development and co-operation processes. The report stresses the need to develop an appropriate combination of tools and partnerships. By doing this, it should contribute to facilitating the working out of a realistic Mediterranean strategy for sustainable development.

B. REGIONAL STRATEGY FOR ICAM, RATIONALE AND OBJECTIVES

In spite of efforts by numerous parties leading to considerable improvements in the last two decades, the Mediterranean coastal areas are still exposed to significant pressures from a range of socio-economic driving forces. It was recognised, in many instances, that a more strategic view of the Mediterranean coastal areas is needed, as a mechanism that will support a long-term policy making process, ensuring that coastal areas' management is environmentally and economically sustainable, as well as socially equitable and cohesive. The future MAP strategy for ICAM will be an "institutional" strategy dealing with the MAP activities, but it will not prevent a wide group of stakeholders to participate in its development and implementation. In this respect, MAP strategy on ICAM will have to be closely related to the MSSD. It will take the MSSD's findings as an overall context where specific strategic ICAM activities will be taking place, but also should provide a critically important input to MSSD when touching upon coastal areas' issues. The MAP strategy on ICAM will have the following objectives:

- introduce strategic thinking into MAP's operation and help develop effective coastal strategies;
- clarify its future direction in the field of ICAM and CAMP;
- establish priorities in ICAM activities and CAMP geographical and thematic areas;
- help that today's decisions are in line with their future consequences;
- improve MAP and its components' performance in the field of ICAM and CAMP;
- provide mechanism to adapt to changing circumstances in the coastal areas of the region and to provide quickly the right answers; and
- build adequate expertise for ICAM.

The MAP Strategy for ICAM will consist of a series of concrete actions for each of the general areas of action, based on the conclusions of plethora of meetings, assessments, conclusions and recommendations. To ensure effectiveness and efficiency, this Strategy should build as much as possible on existing instruments programmes and resources, rather than creating new ones. It should aim to improve their use through better co-ordination, and through ensuring that they are flexible and appropriate for coastal areas. It is intended that the Strategy will contribute to the implementation of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation in the Mediterranean particularly where it relates to integrated coastal zone management. It will also serve as a model for introducing sustainable development in coastal areas in other Regional Seas Programmes of UNEP. The Strategy is expected to lead to improved coastal areas' management. It is furthermore expected to improve the implementation of a wide range of MAP recommendations in coastal areas.

C. PROGRESS ON MCSD THEMATIC ISSUES

Hereunder is a brief presentation of the progress of activities related to MCSD thematic issues, as a follow up of previously analysed subjects or as on-going activity; these activities have been undertaken by concerned support centres and/or partners

1. **Water demand management (WDM)** is the first MCSD's issue that has enabled to evaluate progress and difficulties in achieving recommendations adopted by the Contracting Parties in 1997. An important regional forum has been arranged from 3rd to 5th October 2002 in Fiuggi (Italy) by the MAP/BP with the support of GWP, Italy, France, Tunisia, Egypt and Morroco. Participation of 79 experts from 20 countries (among them were several water Directors, representatives of the private sector and donors), analysis of national questionnaires (only 12 of them had been answered), the 32 contributions that have been presented (case studies, synthetic documents), the three forum workshops (on economic and institutional tools and the mobilisation of actors) as well as the debate between donors have enabled to draw up a more detailed and very useful regional assessment. If an urgent need for changing policies has emerged, especially as far as agricultural water is concerned, the forum has also demonstrated the concrete progress that had been made in several countries, the substantial benefits that could be achieved, the wide panel of tools that has made them possible as well as the inadequacies and the difficulties still to be overcome to successfully manage the necessary change in scenario.
2. **Free trade and the environment in the euro-mediterranean context**. The "sustainability impact assessment" of the Euro-Mediterranean Free Trade Area, launched by the European Commission, is just beginning. It will enable to deepen works engaged and already ended in the framework of the MCSD. MAP/BP will be requested to take an active part in the consultation process. The regional forum that has been organised together with the ICAMAS (International Centre for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies) at the end of May 2002, has demonstrated the outstanding importance of the agricultural and rural issues in the context of trade liberalization. Especially since it implies highly negative impact risks for some fragile rural areas of the South and East, because of the room to manoeuvre that is left in the negotiation and since there is an urgent need to change or strengthen sustainable rural development policies in these countries (combatting poverty and desertification). The Plan Bleu has started a partnership with the World Bank/METAP in order to evaluate the likely impacts of Free Trade on small business units of the textile industry in Morocco, the response that could be set up and lessons to be learnt as far as other countries of the South and East of the Mediterranean are concerned.
3. **Financing and cooperation for sustainable development**. The activity has started in 2003 and a regional assessment and 3 national studies are under way. The steering committee will be asked to debate on the analysis and to suggest proposals to the Commission if necessary.
4. **Sustainable rural development.** Following the requirements of the MCSD, the MAP/BP became closer to ICAMAS, FAO (Silvamediterranea) and IAMF (international association for Mediterranean Forests) and cooperation agreements have been signed. Activity will start in 2004 relying on already developped analysis and on the collection of case studies representative of the Mediterranean set of problems. A regional workshop should be arranged by

2004/2005 in order to discuss on experts' achievements and to formulate strategic proposals if necessary.

5. **Indicators for sustainable development.** An assessment of the implementation of the 1999 recommendations related to indicators (what implementation and how to strengthen their usefulness for sustainable development policies ?) will be made within the framework of a regional workshop scheduled for 2005.

6. **Industry and sustainable development.** Recommendations adopted by the 12th CP Conference distinguish between reinforcement of the use of existing mechanisms, tools and stakeholders; introduction of sustainable standards within companies; promotion of the transfer of knowledge; control and follow-up mechanisms and follow-up.

The Regional Activity Centre for Cleaner Production (RAC/CP) is already implementing some of them, by:

- Integrating sustainable industrial environmental criteria into the activities carried out under the Strategic Action Programme and the GEF project by developing regional guidelines.
- Strengthening and making coordinated use of the existing resources such as a Mediterranean expert's database in cooperation with business associations
- Promoting and supporting the establishment of resource centres and other relevant sources of expertise at national and local levels such as its participation in the establishment of a Bosnia Herzegovina CP centre, the organisation of capacity building activities and training of trainers to create national capacities.
- Introducing sustainable standards within companies and transfer of knowledge by means of developing methodological tools; preparing industrial case studies, guidelines, multimedia and studies on pollution prevention opportunities; carrying out databases of sector-related technologies compiling various sound options on pollution prevention techniques; exchanging information.
- Promoting regional cooperation of relevant issues between major regional institutions.

7. **Sustainable management of Coastal Zones, Urban Management and Local Governance.** As a follow up to MCSD recommendations, a A Feasibility Study for regional protocol was prepared and three options proposed to the Contracting Parties. The recommendation related to demonstration projects was also fully implemented. Seven CAMP projects were carried out during the last biennium, ranging from those that have had final presentation conference to those that had their feasibility studies prepared. In addition, a number of other international organisations as well as national and local administrations were very active in implementing coastal projects. In the field of sustainable Urban Management, the innovative project on urban regeneration in the Mediterranean was initiated and financially supported by EU. Although the working group on Local Management and Sustainable Development was not approved, the importance of the subject was gradually gaining the status of the cross-cutting theme in a number of MAP and PAP activities. In the field of ICAM, the new revised guidelines will pay special attention to the issue of local management and governance.

8. **Tourism and Sustainable Development.** So far, expected activities related to the development by Turkey of a specific strategic programme on Tourism and Sustainable Development were not undertaken; it is hoped that related activities could be resumed soon and that this important programme be given due consideration before the 9th MCSD meeting, including the organization of a regional forum on Tourism and Sustainable Development, a major issue for a MSSD.

ANNEX IV

RENOVATED PROGRAMME ON CULTURAL HERITAGE (100 HISTORIC SITES)

Renovation of the programme on "100 historic sites"

1 - Background

At their 12th meeting, the Contracting Parties requested that the Secretariat, "in order to take into account the need to maintain activities related to cultural heritage among MAP's activities, as a component of sustainable development in the Mediterranean, prepare, using the MCSD framework as appropriate, a draft of a new programme in this field, taking into account the suggestions of the evaluators of the programme of 100 Historic Sites".

This recommendation was submitted to MCSD at its 7th session (Antalya, March 2002) and then at a meeting of experts held in Nice (10 – 11 April 2003) under the joint presidency of France and Tunisia. An expert, Mr Valery Patin, helped the Secretariat to finalize a proposal.

2 – New objectives for the Programme on "100 historic sites"

The purpose of the Nice meeting (10 - 11 April 2003) was to define the objectives and the principles of action for the 100 Sites Programme in its new format. Nine countries were represented at that meeting. Participants emphasized the ever-closer relationship between heritage and sustainable development and identified numerous interfaces common to both domains, such as the economy of resources, active participation by communities in the operations to be launched for rehabilitation or enhancement, the need for the younger generation to take over from the older generations and ways of interesting young people. Those considerations were currently giving rise to technical activities in the cultural heritage field, related, for example, to waste and sewage treatment in historic centres, the material and legal protection of sites, the management of tourist flows (numbers of visitors), training operators (tourism companies, corporations, local communities) in issues related to protection of the heritage, procedures for the social and economic inclusion of local communities in the protection and enhancement procedures (employment, training, development aid, international fundraising and the integration of contemporary architectural elements and the recent heritage (industrial heritage, for example).

Participants stressed that, within the sustainable development context, the 100 sites Programme would make a more clear-cut contribution to the protection of the heritage by fostering the economic and social integration of local communities, thanks to the creation of appropriate protection, management and enhancement procedures. They recommended that networking should be a priority, taking into account most of all the MAP Centres and the many bodies, such as UNESCO and the Council of Europe, specializing in the field. They also underscored the need to extend the scope for the selection of sites to include all monuments and built sites or city centres of particular significance in terms of Mediterranean cultures by focusing on some representative specimens of "greater heritage" and "lesser heritage" alike. The territories concerned would mostly be coastal areas (exceptionally including marine areas), but work would be carried out into all Mediterranean regions (rather than on all national territories).

The programme will last for three years and the following activities should be developed:

- pinpointing interesting cases of well-integrated enhancement with a view to posting them on the Internet in liaison with the PAP Internet network and to fostering exchanges of experiences. Use of the Internet will be one of the unit's main tools,
- using these cases as a springboard for training public- and private-sector professionals, cultural operators and managers. Use will be made of all existing training courses with a cultural vocation or concerned with sustainable development (for example, UNITAR courses and those of the Summer University currently in preparation), avoiding any direct training activity
- providing technical assistance with the launching of two or three pilot protection and enhancement projects in volunteer countries. These actions will be carried out at the country's request alone,
- possibly holding high-level meetings if a country or city offers to host them, on the subject of the relationship between the cultural heritage and sustainable development. Contacts will be made to that end with the Council of Europe and UNESCO, and the meeting would be held under the patronage of both bodies and of MAP,
- small workshops (three or four) could be dedicated to exchanges on specific subjects such as: protection procedures, funding and taxation of the protected heritage, managing over-frequented sites, etc.,
- lending support for the various activities of the MAP centres, in particular the CAPs (coastal activity programmes) under way, to ensure that attention is paid to the cultural heritage,
- lending assistance with the preparation of funding dossiers in connection with the major lending bodies (World Bank, European Commission, [UNDP, FADES - Arab Social and Economic Development Fund]) or at least offering advice to any country desiring or needing it,
- making a contribution to defining monitoring "indicators", setting objectives and responding to situations, along the lines of work already carried out in that area by the MAP (MCSD) and the Council of Europe.

The Programme could offer advice on the subject of the protection and enhancement of the heritage to corporations committed to sustainable development approaches (e.g. agendas 21 or ISO 14001): as is already the case of 30 municipalities in Tunisia, 130 in France, and over 300 in Italy. It might also take part in activities to identify "hot spots" where the cultural heritage is at the highest risk, taking as its inspiration the Montreux register (Ramsar Convention) or the ICOMOS black list.

3 – Proposal for the organization and structure for the implementation of the programme

30 – Activities to be carried out

To implement all the guidelines defined at the Nice meeting, the new programme should act by means of:

- research and exchanges of information between members via an Internet site. The main aim would be to guide participants towards existing databases and possibly to produce small technical handbooks from time to

time. It would enable members to exchange experiences or queries directly,

- occasional expertise activities to benefit sites, carried out by experts identified by the body in each member country. A set of experts with complementary profiles would be identified. Some experts would be called on to “put dossiers in shape”, while others would contribute specific technical know-how (protection, planning, management, enhancement, local or regional economic development),
- regular contacts with international financial institutions. The Programme should have the closest possible contacts with international bodies that contribute to the funding of the heritage and sustainable development. That would entail monitoring the work done by those institutions in the reference field, participating in the events organized by them, establishing regular links with teams in charge of those dossiers,
- organizing thematic training sessions and working meetings in member countries. these meetings ands seminars could take place preferably in the framework of started programmes and organized by other international bodies (for example, UNESCO, European Commission, Council of Europe).
- a procedure of sponsoring those dossiers in which the principles of sustainable development had best been taken into account in the procedure of protection, management and enhancement of the cultural heritage. This activity will be aimed at making those projects known and giving them backup that might help in their fulfilment.

31 - Staff

The permanent staff would, as things stand, comprise a half-time director and a senior assistant director. the half-time director must have the right personal relations skills and be able to supervise the network of members, partners and experts. The senior assistant director must be of excellent calibre, have experience of the heritage field and a good knowledge of languages.
The role of experts is important since it is through them that a high level of information and of the technical assistance provided to network members can be maintained. Only short-term experts’ contracts are budgeted in the proposals set forth here. Long-term expert contracts will be left to the member countries or sites so requiring them or their organization will be the responsibility of the national and international partner institutions.

32 – Facilities

The Programme should have offices at its disposal (4 or 5 rooms) as well as the usual computer equipment. A sizeable share of the budget will be earmarked for travel and management of the website.

4 - Budget (spending in euros over one year)

1) Operations		euros
Salaries		
	Director (halftime)	23 000,00
	Senior assistant director, confirmed	32 000,00
Contributions		30 000,00
Taxes		5 000,00
Rent		20 000,00
Accounting		10 000,00
General costs (telecoms, postage, electricity, supplies, insurance)		20 000,00
Travel costs for staff and directors		25 000,00
Management of the Internet site and communication (creation, management, communication, publications)		25 000,00
Total for permanent operations		**190 000,00**
2) Short-term expertise (based on 75 days per annum).		
Expertise		30 000,00
Travel		25 000,00
3) Training and seminar (participation)		
Organization		10 000,00
General costs (fees, transport, accommodation, meals for participants and backup staff)		20 000,00
Grand total for operations		**275 000,00**
4) Installation costs		
Office furniture		5 000,00
Computers and reprographics		7 000,00
Documents		3 000,00
Total installation costs		**15 000,00**
Grand total		**290 000,00**

5 – Identification of Resources

Resources would come from:

- MAP
- the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention, through the ministries concerned
- interested regions and cities
- and occasionally funds such as the World Monument Fund, the Arab Social and Economic Development Fund (FADES) or the Aga Khan Trust for Culture. These institutions have yet to be contacted but their funding practices are in keeping with the kinds of activities planned by the 100 Sites Programme.

Those regions and cities which might be called upon to participate could include:

- Catalonia and Andalusia
- Lombardy
- Provence-Côte d'Azur
- Languedoc-Roussillon
- Principality of Monaco
- Malta
- Cities of Marseille, Nice, Perpignan, Barcelona, Grenada, Tangier, Fez, Tunis, Damascus, Aleppo, Antalya, Athens, Thessaloniki, Rome, Venice, Naples, Split and others

Contributions would be of three kinds:

- contributions to the operations in the form of direct funding (50% of all contributions)
- contributions in kind, e.g. by making facilities available (premises, transport, accommodation for seminars, paying for experts)
- contributions linked to specific annual or multiannual programmes.
- These programmes might concern
- activities of a general nature and carried out by the body itself, such as the design and publication of technical and educational documentation (via internet),
- activities carried out directly by one of the partner sites, in the area of protection and development, and already benefiting from national and international funding. In this case, the structure would be remunerated for its technical assistance to projects,
- programmes run by national and international institutions for which the body would make a contribution by making experts available. The body could then be remunerated for its technical assistance.

The City of Marseille used to host the Programme Secretariat and has officially made it known that it wishes to continue to be involved in its running.