

ANNOTATED AGENDA
of the Steering Committee Meeting with possible leading questions (in italic) and expected outputs (in bold)

Opening of the Meeting and Adoption of the Agenda

The President of the Steering Committee of the MCSD and the Coordinator of UNEP/MAP will open the meeting.

The draft Agenda will be proposed to the meeting for adoption

Introduction by the Coordinator

- Summary of the Secretariat Report

After introducing the Report of the Secretariat, the Coordinator will inform the Steering Committee on the decisions of the Executive Coordination Panel and on his recent participation to the CSD -16 Meeting. Members of the Steering Committee will explore the questions:

- *How can MCSD develop stronger interactions with CSD, in terms of programme, activities and information exchange, etc?*

Outputs: strategic principles, components and criteria to guide and evaluate MCSD functioning and work programme

1. Progress report on MCSD Activities

1.1. Support to policy process at the country level (SD Officer)

1.1.1. Support to NSSD

1.1.2. Pilot activities: Island Strategy for Sustainable Development

After the presentation, the Steering Committee will be invited to answer the following questions:

- *How could national level activities such as support to NSSD and ISSD be supported by MCSD and more broadly the other elements of the MAP system?*
- *How can the MCSD members and the Steering Committee contribute to raise the profile of NSSD in the concerned countries?*
- *What other pilot activities could be considered at the country level and what could be the implementation modalities?*

1.2. Progress on MCSD related activities by MAP components (Secretariat)

After the presentation, the Steering Committee will be invited to answer the following questions:

- *How can the Working Groups concept, composition and functioning be improved to increase the effectiveness of the support provided by the MAP system to MSSD and its implementation?*
- *In particular how can Working Groups and pilot actions help increase the capacities of the countries to take policy measures and initiate actions with the view to implement their commitments at the regional (e.g. Barcelona Convention and its Protocols) and international levels (Commitments under various MAEs, UNCCC and UNCBD in particular)?*
- *How to foster interactions and synergies between MCSD work and the activities of the different MAP component?*

Note: On the first two points, a "Concept note on working groups" gives some elements to substantiate the discussion.

Outputs: strategic principles, components and criteria to guide and evaluate MCSD functioning and activities

2. Developments since the last MCSD Meeting (Secretariat)

2.1. Almeria CPs Meeting

2.1.1. Decisions IG 17/4: Governance Paper

a) MCSD Mandate

Based on the new mandate of the MCSD, the Steering Committee will discuss the possible arrangements -working groups or/and other means- and activities that are necessary for the MCSD to perform its missions, i.e. (i) assist in the adoption and implementation of SD policies; (ii) ensure follow-up of MSSD implementation; (iii) promote experience exchange on SD integration and implementation of international commitment; (iv) assessment of bottlenecks to implementation; (v) produce opinion on the MAP system functioning including its work programme and outputs.

The following question will be addressed:

- *How should the MCSD constituting documents (i.e. Rules of Procedures) be amended to reflect the new mandate?*

b) MCSD Composition: new categories and criteria for members selection

The Steering Committee will be invited to make comments and suggestions on the proposed selection criteria and method of nomination

On more general issues, the Steering Committee may want to discuss:

- *What should be the role and responsibilities of individual MCSD member, in particular during inter session period?*
- *How to involve more and better the civil society and the business community in the different working groups and the MCSD work in general?*

c) MCSD functioning

Based on the previous MCSD Rules of Procedure and the MCSD functioning as described in the Governance paper, the Steering Committee may want to discuss the following:

- *How the new frequency of MCSD Meeting, - that is now decided to be every two year- impact on the Working Groups and the entire MCSD programme of work and its cycle?*
- *What criteria could be used to identify the sectoral and inter sectoral issues and themes? (i.e. MCSD decision making process)*
- *What type of outputs can be expected from MCSD beyond Recommendations to the Contracting Parties?*
- *How to ensure synergies between MCSD and other MAP components, in particular what should be the role of the different RACS in the functioning of MCSD?*
- *How to organise the flow of information within MCSD and between MCSD and other actors?*
- *How can MCSD monitor and evaluate its functioning?*
- *What should be the role of the Steering Committee?*

Outputs: strategic principles, components and criteria emerging from the discussions will be used to prepare new Rules of Procedure for the MCSD, revisit MCSD Rules and Procedures MCSD Work Programme and structure the next MCSD meeting agenda

2.1.2. Decisions IG 17/16: MCSD Meeting Recommendations

The Steering Committee will consider whether the MCSD can contribute further to the implementation of the CPs decisions on "Energy and Climate Change" and "Water demand management". A strategic question would:

- *Once its recommendations are approved by the Contracting Parties, should MCSD continue its work on a given issue to support implementation or should it switch to another topic and leave implementation support to the other MAP components?*

2.1.3. Decisions IG 17/17: MSSD Implementation Plan

Keeping in mind the new MCSD mandate decided in Almeria the Steering Committee may discuss:

- *What are the comparative advantages of various MSSD implementation support tools and mechanisms (e.g. working and expert groups, pilot actions at national levels, regional capacity building, policy dialogues, targeted knowledge management; information and communication)?*
- *What could be the MCSD role in the different MSSD strategic directions)?*

2.1.4. Almeria Declaration

After a short introduction, the SC could discuss how MCSD can contribute to the implementation of the Almeria Declaration that gives special emphasis to Climate Change. The following questions could be addressed:

- *How can MCSD support the implementation of the Almeria Declaration?*
- *Should MCSD be involved and how (e.g. by way of a working group) in the: (i) assessment of Climate Change impact on biodiversity; (ii) assessment of the economic value (product and services) of ecosystems; (iii) better management of energy demand and energy efficiency including alternative energy; (iv) water demand management; and, (v) carbon sinks?*

Outputs: strategic principles, components and criteria emerging from the discussions will contribute to the formulation of the next MCSD Work Programme

2.2. Developments outside the MAP system

2.2.1. Union for the Mediterranean. Presentation by Mr Mocilnikar

Following the presentation, the SC will explore the possible linkages and synergies between the Union for the Mediterranean and MCSD.

2.2.2. Implementation of Horizon 2020 (MEDPOL)

After a brief introduction on Horizon 2020 and the role played by MEDPOL, the SC could discuss how the MCSD can contribute to Horizon 2020 implementation

2.2.3. GEF project. Presentation by Ms Virginia Hart

Following the presentation, the SC will explore the possible interaction between the GEF project and MCSD.

Outputs: strategic principles, components and criteria emerging from the discussions will be used to formalise collaboration with the concerned entities.

3. Work programme 2008-2009 and roadmap to the next MCSD meeting

3.1. Overview of the Work programme and Budget (Coordinator)

3.2. Roadmap to the MCSD meeting (Sustainable Development Officer)

After the presentations, the SC will discuss how best to integrate the different parts of the approved Work programme and Budget that concern MCSD. The following questions could be addressed:

- *How can the overall MAP work programme better reflect the role of the MCSD?*
- *Should not the MCSD work programme be revisited and the proposed cycles adjusted more often to better reflect the dynamics of the programmes and institutions within and outside the MAP system?*

Outputs: Elements for the updating and consolidation of the MCSD Work Programme

4. Considerations for the preparation of the next MCSD meetings (Secretariat)

The purpose is to discuss the possible elements and structure of the next MCSD meeting including a specific focus on Mainstreaming Climate Change in national policies. On this occasion a more general discussion could take place on:

- *What criteria could be used to identify emerging issues and themes for the MCSD meetings?*
- *What could be the structuring elements (key note presentation, group work and dynamics)?*
- *What should be the balance between substantive work and MCSD operational aspects (MCSD self evaluation, linkages with other MAP components, etc.)?*
- *How can the Steering Committee be closely involved in the preparation of the meeting?*

Outputs: Elements for the finalisation of a roadmap to the next MCSD meeting

5. Other matters

DAY 1	
Opening of the Meeting and Adoption of the Agenda Introduction by the Coordinator	0930 – 1000
1. Progress report on MCSD Activities	
1.1 Support to policy process at the country level (SD Officer)	1000 – 1030
1.2 Progress on MCSD related activities by MAP components (Secretariat)	1030 – 1100
<i>Coffee Break</i>	1100 – 1130
1.2. Progress on MCSD related activities by MAP components (continued)	1130 – 1200
2. Developments since the last MCSD Meeting (Secretariat)	
2.1 Almeria CPs Meeting	
2.1.1 Decisions IG 17/4: Governance Paper	1200 – 1300
<i>Lunch</i>	1300 – 1430
2.1.2 Decisions IG 17/16: MCSD Meeting Recommendations	1430 – 1500
2.1.3. Decisions IG 17/17: MSSD Implementation Plan	1500 – 1530
2.1.4. Almeria Declaration	1530 – 1600
<i>Coffee Break</i>	1600 – 1630
2.2. Developments outside the MAP system	
2.2.1. Union for the Mediterranean (Mr Mocilnikar)	1630 – 1700
2.2.2. Implementation of Horizon 2020 (MEDPOL)	1700 – 1730
DAY 2	
2.2.3. GEF project. Presentation by Ms Virginia Hart	0930 – 1000
3. Work programme 2008-2009 and roadmap to MCSD meeting (Secretariat)	1000 – 1100
<i>Coffee Break</i>	1100 – 1130
4. Considerations for the preparation of the next MCSD meetings (Secretariat)	1130 – 1300
<i>Lunch</i>	1300 – 1430
5. Other matters	1430 – 1500