



# United Nations Environment Programme



UNEP(DEC)/MED IG.16/5/Add.1  
12 October 2005

ENGLISH

---



## MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN

14<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to  
the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment  
and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean  
and its Protocols

Portoroz (Slovenia), 8-11 November 2005

### Addendum 1 to Recommendations

### PROPOSAL BY THE SECRETARIAT



**From: MAP Coordinator**  
**To: Contracting Parties**

**Subject: Post of Deputy Coordinator – UNEP/MAP**

## **1. Introduction**

The post of Deputy Coordinator at UNEP/MAP in Athens has become vacant following the appointment of Mr Arab Hoballah to another position at UNEP/DTIE in Paris with effect from 3<sup>rd</sup> October, 2005. This appointment was approved by the Executive Director of UNEP.

As the notice of Mr. Hoballah's departure came too close to the meeting of the MAP Focal Points held on 21-24 September 2005 for the Secretariat to raise the issue of his replacement then, it is proposed to address it at the Meeting of the Contracting Parties in Slovenia, 8-11<sup>th</sup> November 2005.

## **2. Background to the Creation of the post of Deputy Coordinator**

The extraordinary meeting of the Contracting Parties in Montpellier in 1996 "...approved a revised structure of the personnel at the Coordinating Unit, a post of Deputy Coordinator and a post of MED POL Coordinator....". It was also approved that "*The functions of Deputy Coordinator will include coordinating the activities related to the implementation of sustainable development in the Mediterranean and assisting the work of the Mediterranean Commission for Sustainable Development (MCSD)*".

When the vacancy announcement for Deputy Coordinator was made in June 1997 the duties attached to the post included:

1. Responsibility for the day-to-day management of the Secretariat of MAP;
2. Responsibility for the activities related to, and Secretary to, the Mediterranean Commission for Sustainable Development;
3. Coordination and implementation of information activities of MAP.

## **3. The post of MSSD Officer**

It should also be recalled that during their meeting in Catania in 2003 the Contracting Parties approved the creation of a temporary position of a Sustainability Officer for one year, specifically related to the preparation of the MSSD. A French national was appointed. He will leave at the end of his contract, which expires in February 2006.

## **4. The Secretariat's Proposal**

In order to optimize management and efficiency at the Coordinating Unit, the Contracting Parties may wish to consider the following:

- (i) The finalization of the MSSD, the recommendation of the MCSD to the Coordinator to be more directly involved in the work of the MCSD and the successful experience of the involvement of the Blue Plan in the work of the

MCSD, may suggest that a post at the D1 level with the main function of pursuing the work of the MCSD may no longer be justified.

- (ii) It is proposed that a new MCSD Programme Officer is appointed at the P4/P5 level, against the suppression of the post of Deputy Coordinator, to oversee the implementation of the MSSD and follow the future work of the MCSD under the supervision of the Coordinator, and in close cooperation with the Blue Plan.
- (iii) With the proposed changes, the top structure of MAP will not be disturbed because, apart from the post of Coordinator at D2 level, there would still be one position at D1 level (MED POL Coordinator, if approved in Slovenia) and now the P4/P5 level MCSD Programme Officer.
- (iv) The functions of the Deputy Coordinator on the day-to-day management would be assumed by the most senior official, whenever the Coordinator is away from the office as is the case at present.

## **5. Recommendation**

In view of the above, the Contracting Parties are invited to approve the Secretariat's proposal to abolish the post of Deputy Coordinator and create instead the position of MCSD Programme Officer at P4/P5 level.

This proposal, if approved, will not have any implications on the proposed budgetary allocations for the biennium 2006-2007.