

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Introduction

The 17th 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 (Paris, France, 8-10 February 2012) accepted the kind offer of the Government of Turkey to host the 18th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties in Turkey.

The following annotations to the proposed agenda were prepared by the Secretariat to assist the meeting in its deliberations. The opening session will be preceded, as per usual practice, by an informal meeting among the heads of delegations at 08.00 hrs.

Agenda Item 1: Opening of the meeting

The meeting will be held at the Istanbul Congress Center, Taksim, Istanbul, Turkey and will be opened at 09.30 hrs. on Tuesday 3 December 2013.

- Welcoming address and introductory remarks by Turkish Minister of Environment and Urbanization, H.E. Erdogan Bayraktar;
- Welcoming remarks by Elizabeth Maruma Mrema, Deputy Director & Officer-in-Charge, Division of Environmental Policy Implementation (DEPI), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP);
- Address and remarks by S.E.M. Jean-Pierre Thébault, French Ambassador for the Environment, the President of the Bureau of the 17th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties or his representative;
- Address by Maria Luisa Silva Mejias, Executive Secretary and Coordinator of Barcelona Convention - UNEP/MAP.

Agenda Item 2: Organizational matters

2.1 Rules of procedure

The Rules of Procedure adopted for meetings and conferences of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and Coastal Region of the Mediterranean and its Protocols, as amended (UNEP/IG.4/6, Annex XI) will apply to this meeting.

2.2 Election of officers

Subject to the Rules of Procedure, the meeting shall elect from among the representatives of the Contracting Parties the members of the Bureau consisting of a President, four Vice-Presidents and a Rapporteur. It is recalled that "*the principle of equitable geographical distribution shall be observed*" (Article 19 of the Convention).

2.3 Signature of Agreements

The Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) between the Barcelona Convention/MAP Secretariat and the Secretariats of the Union for the Mediterranean and the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources

(IUCN) will be signed by the representative of the Secretariat and Mr. Fathallah Sijilmassi, the Secretary General of the Union for the Mediterranean and the Deputy Director General/Managing Director of IUCN Mr. Poul Engberg-Pedersen followed by brief remarks.

2.4 Adoption of the agenda

- (a) The Provisional Agenda prepared and finalized by the Secretariat in agreement with the Bureau of the Contracting Parties was distributed as document UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.21/1.
- (b) Subject to the rules of procedure referred to at paragraph 2.1, the meeting may wish to adopt the agenda and timetable appearing in the Annex to the present document amended as appropriate.
- (c) Simultaneous interpretation (Arabic, English, French and Spanish) will be available in all plenary sessions throughout the meeting.

2.4 Organization of work

- (a) The Meeting of the Contracting Parties may wish to decide that it should meet from 9:00 or 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and from 2:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. subject to adjustments as necessary.
- (b) The Meeting of the Contracting Parties may wish to establish ad hoc discussion groups or drafting sub committees, as it may deem necessary and to specify their mandates.

2.5 Credentials

- (a) Rule 18 of the rules of procedure for meetings and conferences of the Contracting Parties provides that each Contracting Party shall be represented by an accredited representative, who may be accompanied by such alternates and advisers as may be required.
- (b) Rule 19 of the rules of procedure for meetings and conferences of the Contracting Parties provides that the credentials of the representatives and the names of the alternate representatives shall be submitted by the Contracting Parties before the opening session of the meeting which the representatives are to attend. It provides also that the Bureau shall examine the credentials of representatives and submit its report to the meeting.

Agenda Item 3: Decisions

3.1 Thematic Decisions of the 18th Meeting of the Contracting Parties

- (a) The Meeting of the Contracting Parties has before it document UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.21/5 "Draft Decisions for the 18th Meeting of the Contracting Parties". The Secretariat will briefly introduce the Draft Decisions. The chairperson of the Compliance Committee will introduce the Compliance Committee to the 18th Meeting of the Contracting Parties Doc UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.21/8.

- (b) The Meeting of the Contracting Parties may wish to consider and adopt the following draft decisions that were approved at the MAP Focal Points meeting held in Athens in September 2013:

Draft Decision IG.21/1	Compliance Committee including renewal of members, the modification of the rules of procedure and the Programme of Work of the Compliance Committee
Draft Decision IG.21/2	Reporting format to comply with the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols; and, the new reporting format for the ICZM Protocol
Draft Decision IG.21/3	Ecosystems Approach including adopting definitions of Good Environmental Status (GES) and targets
Draft Decision IG.21/4	Action Plans under the Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity Protocol including Monk Seal, Marine Turtles, Birds, Cartilaginous Fishes, and Dark Habitats
Draft Decision IG.21/5	Identification and Conservation of sites of particular ecological interest in the Mediterranean
Draft Decision IG.21/6	Amendments of the Annexes II and III to the Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean
Draft Decision IG.21/7	Draft Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management
Draft Decision IG.21/8	Follow up actions regarding the Offshore Protocol Action plan
Draft Decision IG.21/9	Establishment of a Mediterranean Network of Law Enforcement Officials relating to MARPOL within the framework of the Barcelona Convention
Draft Decision IG.21/10	Development of an Action Plan on Sustainable Consumption and Production in the Mediterranean
Draft Decision IG.21/11	Review of the Mediterranean Strategy on Sustainable Development (MSSD), proposed by the MCSD Steering Committee
Draft Decision IG.21/12	Reforming of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD), proposed by the MCSD Steering Committee
Draft Decision IG.21/13	Governance
Draft Decision IG.21/14	Cooperation Agreements
Draft Decision IG.21/15	Financial Regulations, Rules and Procedures applicable to the Barcelona Convention
Draft Decision IG.21/16	Mediterranean Action Plan Phase III

Expected outcome: The Meeting of the Contracting Parties is expected to adopt the proposed draft Decisions.

Working document/s	
UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.21/5	Draft Decisions for the 18 th meeting of the Contracting Parties

3.2 Programme of Work and Budget for 2014-2015

The MAP Focal Points in their meeting in September 2013 (Athens, Greece) asked the Secretariat to prepare the Programme of Work and Budget for 2014-2015 with two budgetary options.

The Secretariat will present the Programme of Work and Budget for 2014-2015 to be followed by discussion.

Expected outcome: The meeting is expected to review and approve the proposed Programme of Work and Budget for 2014-2015.

Working document	
UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.21/7	The Programme of Work and Budget for 2014-2015

Agenda Item 4: Ministerial Session

- (a) Welcoming address and introductory remarks by Turkish Minister of Environment and Urbanization, H.E. Erdogan Bayraktar;
- (b) Welcoming remarks by Mr. Ibrahim Thiaw, United Nations Assistant Secretary-General, Deputy Executive Director, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP);
- (c) The Meeting of the Contracting Parties has before it document UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.21/3 "Report by the Secretariat for the 18th Meeting of the Contracting Parties" reporting major achievements during the biennium which will be introduced by Barcelona Convention - UNEP/MAP Executive Secretary and Coordinator.

Environment Friendly Cities

Following introductory remarks, Ministers/Heads of Delegations may wish to provide their statements and interventions on the topic of the session as included in UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.21/Inf.7, as well as on the progress report and the way forward. Due to limited time, speakers are kindly asked to limit their interventions to 10 minutes.

Adoption of Istanbul Declaration

- (a) The Meeting of the Contracting Parties has before it document UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.21/4 "Draft Istanbul Declaration" which will be introduced by the representative of Turkey.
- (b) The Meeting of the Contracting Parties is invited to discuss and adopt the Istanbul Declaration.

Expected outcome: The Istanbul Declaration is expected to be adopted by the Meeting of the Contracting Parties.

Adoption of COP18 Decisions

Following negotiations under Agenda Item 3, Ministers will be invited to adopt Decisions in two groups: agreed decisions (Group A) and those which still require discussion (Group B).

Agenda Item 5: Date and place of the 19th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties in 2013

The meeting will be invited to consider the dates and place of the 19th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to be convened in 2013.

Agenda Item 6: Any Other business

- (a) The Meeting of the Contracting Parties is invited to consider the proposal of Spain to rename the Regional Activity Center for Cleaner Production (CP/RAC) as "Regional Activity Center for Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP/RAC)" and issue a recommendation in this regard.
- (b) The Meeting of the Contracting Parties may wish to consider other matters raised during the meeting.

Agenda Item 7: Adoption of the Report

At its final session, the Meeting of the Contracting Parties will be invited to consider and adopt the report of the meeting as prepared by the Rapporteur.

Agenda Item 8: Closure of the Meeting

It is expected that the meeting will be closed by the President at 18.00 hrs. on Friday 6 December 2013.

ANNEX

SUGGESTED TIMETABLE

TENTATIVE PROGRAMME		
DATE	AGENDA ITEMS	WORKING/INFORMATION DOCUMENTS
<i>Tuesday 3 December 2013</i>		
08.00 - 09.30	<i>Informal Meeting of Heads of Delegations</i>	
08.00 - 09.30	<i>Registration</i>	
09.30 – 11:00	Agenda item 1 Opening of the meeting Agenda item 2 Organization of work 1. Rules of Procedure 2. Election of officers 3. Signature of Agreements	
11.00 - 11.30	<i>Coffee break</i>	
11.30 - 13.00	Agenda item 2 cont'd Organization of work 4. Adoption of the Agenda 5. Organization of work 6. Credentials Agenda item 3 Decisions Draft Decision IG.21/1 Draft Decision IG.21/2	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.21/1 UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.21/2 UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.21/5
13.00 - 14.30	<i>Lunch break</i>	
14.30 - 16.00	Agenda item 3 cont'd Decisions Draft Decision IG.21/3 Draft Decision IG.21/4 Draft Decision IG.21/5 Draft Decision IG.21/6	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.21/5
16.00 - 16.30	<i>Coffee break</i>	

TENTATIVE PROGRAMME		
DATE	AGENDA ITEMS	WORKING/INFORMATION DOCUMENTS
16.30 - 18.00	Agenda item 3 cont'd Draft Decision IG.21/7 Draft Decision IG.21/8	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.21/5
Wednesday 4 December 2013		
09.00 - 11.00	Agenda item 3 – continued Draft Decision IG.21/9 Draft Decision IG.21/10 Draft Decision IG.21/14 Draft Decision IG.21/15	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.21/5
11.00 - 11.30	Coffee Break	
11.30 - 13.00	Agenda item 3 cont'd Draft Decision IG.21/11 Draft Decision IG.21/12 Draft Decision IG.21/16	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.21/5
13.00 - 14.00	Lunch break	
14.00 - 16.00	Agenda item 3 cont'd Draft Decision IG.21/13 3.2 Programme of Work and Budget for 2014-2015	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.21/5 UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.21/7
16.00 - 16.30	Coffee break	
16.30 - 18.00	Agenda item 3 cont'd 3.2 Programme of Work and Budget for 2014-2015 (cont'd)	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.21/7
Thursday 5 December 2013		
Agenda item 4. Ministerial Conference		
09:00 – 10:30	Opening of the Ministerial session and Progress report	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.21/3
10:30 – 11:30	Coffee Break	
11:30 – 13:00	Statements by the Heads of	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.21/Inf.7

TENTATIVE PROGRAMME		
DATE	AGENDA ITEMS	WORKING/INFORMATION DOCUMENTS
	Delegations	
13:00 – 14:30	Lunch	
14:30 – 15:30	Statements by the Heads of Delegations (cont'd)	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.21/Inf.7
15:30 – 16:00	Coffee Break	
TENTATIVE PROGRAMME		
DATE	AGENDA ITEMS	WORKING/INFORMATION DOCUMENTS
16:00 - 17:30	Adoption of the Istanbul Declaration	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.21/4
17:30 – 18:00	Adoption of COP18 Decisions	
Friday, 6 December 2013		
09.30 – 15.00	Free time for delegates while meeting report is prepared	
15.00 – 18.00	Agenda items 5 - 8 (a) Date and place of 19th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties in 2015 (b) Any other business (c) Adoption of the Report (d) Closure of the Meeting	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.21/9