relevant provisions of Agenda 21. A series of measures was proposed with a view to implementing in the Mediterranean Basin the decisions taken at the Rio Summit, making the Mediterranean a model for the Regional Seas Programmes, strengthening North-South solidarity, restructuring MAP by objectives, mobilizing external resources, improving coordination and implementing more stringent management policies:

### RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE EIGHTH ORDINARY MEETING OF THE CONTRACTING PARTIES TO THE BARCELONA CONVENTION CONCERNING PRINCIPLES AND PRIORITIES FOR REORIENTATION OF THE MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN

**The Contracting Parties:**

*Having considered the progress report of the Executive Director of UNEP on the implementation of the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) and the report on the implementation of the Mediterranean Action Plan and other related activities,*

*Taking into account the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development held at Rio de Janeiro (1992), the Genoa Charter (1985), the Nicosia Charter (1990), the Cairo Declaration on Euro-Mediterranean Cooperation on the Environment in the Mediterranean Basin (1992) and the recommendations of the Casablanca Conference (1993),*

*Aware of the need for MAP to take into account the imperative of sustainable development and to give it new impetus,*

*Determined to implement the relevant provisions of Agenda 21 and the conventions adopted at Rio de Janeiro in the Mediterranean Basin, especially in the field of biodiversity, and to make the Mediterranean a model for the Regional Seas Programmes,*

**Desirous of:**

- *Strengthening North-South solidarity and assistance to developing countries to implement their commitments in respect of the Barcelona Convention, its Protocols and the relevant provisions of Agenda 21,*

- *Restructuring MAP by objectives, focusing on concrete and immediately operational activities,*

- *Strengthening the process of sustainable development in the coastal States by ensuring better interaction between MAP and national policies.*

**Decide the following:**

- *To evaluate, revise and refocus MAP's activities in a spirit of transparency with the intention of addressing more effectively the challenge of sustainable development and the irreversible nature of impacts on the environment and resources;*

- *To strengthen the institutional capacities of the Contracting Parties which are most in need of this;*

- *To promote the transfer of clean technologies;*

- *To strengthen participation by the Contracting Parties, using to the full their experience, expertise and means of action;*

- *To refocus MAP's activities on the management and protection of the environment in accordance with the recommendations of Agenda 21, giving priority to the management of coastal regions, the marine environment and its biological resources;*

- *To give greater emphasis in MAP to concrete and operational activities, leading to early tangible results;*

- *To identify and mobilize financial resources external to MAP and to assist in the formulation of relevant projects eligible for such financing;*

- *To strengthen coordination between MAP and other institutions and programmes operating in the Mediterranean, including METAP, the Global Environment Fund (GEF) and the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development;*

- *To ensure greater interfacing of the networking activities of decentralized entities, with the private sector and NGOs;*

- *To be more closely associated with the implementation of all international agreements concerning the Mediterranean;*

- *To implement a stringent management system and a rational personnel policy with a view to avoiding the proliferation of expert groups and consultants.*

109.    Many speakers supported the creation of a Revolving Fund  into which the delayed uncommitted contributions would be paid.  Several representatives pointed out that such a fund would ensure stability and continuity, enabling MAP to function normally despite delays in the payment of contributions.  It was suggested that the Fund could also be used for emergency purposes.  Several speakers considered that