

ENGLISH EDITION

MEDWAVES

MAP CO-ORDINATING UNIT • NEWS BULLETIN PUBLISHED IN ENGLISH AND FRENCH • ISSUE No 10/III 1987

SPECIAL REPORT: FIFTH ORDINARY MEETING OF THE CONTRACTING PARTIES



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GUEST EDITORIAL

COLUMBUS 2001

As we come close to the turn of the millennium, the dangers our environment is facing increase dramatically. Fortunately, so does our awareness. Maybe the time has come for us to cross the Ocean and discover a new world. Not conquer another planet, but approach our own "Pebble in the Sky" with a new point of view: that of respect instead of indifference.

William Mansfield, Deputy Executive Director of UNEP, closed his statement to the fifth Meeting of the Contracting Parties with the following words:

The challenge before us is to give additional meaning and life to our efforts to protect and preserve one of the world's great natural resources – the Mediterranean sea. The challenge reminds me of the story surrounding the ancient coat of arms of the royal family of Spain. Before that son of the Mediterranean, Christopher Columbus, set sail to cross the Atlantic, it was believed that the world ended somewhere past Gibraltar. To the Spanish, one of their real



glories was that they were the last outpost of the world, and that their country fronted on the great beyond, therefore, the royal coat of arms showed the pillars of Hercules, the great columns guarding the strait of Gibraltar, and the royal motto said *NE PLUS ULTRA*, meaning generally, "there is nothing beyond here".

But then, when Columbus returned, he had actually discovered a whole new world. The ancient motto might now be seen as inaccurate. In this crisis, wisdom prevailed, and someone at court made a noble and thrifty suggestion, which was immediately accepted by Queen Isabella. It was simply that the first word of the motto, *NE*, be deleted. Now the motto on the coat of arms reads – and has read ever since then: *PLUS ULTRA* – "There is more beyond".

As we go about our work this week and in the months and years ahead – on this side of the pillars of Hercules – we must do it together with the clear recognition that there is "more beyond" for your people and their sea.

OPINION

Excerpt from the statement of the President of the Bureau for the biennium 1986-1987
H.E. Mr Javier Saenz Consculluela



SUSTAINED development can only be brought about through international co-operation agreements to supervise and administer matters of common interest. The report of the Committee on Environment and Development states that in regional seas where resources are shared, it is essential to adopt mandatory measures at regional level to make the use of resources consistent with the protection of the environment.

To save the Mediterranean and safeguard its health and environment is not the responsibility of governments alone. The participation of regional and local authorities is also essential. Citizens can also very appropriately offer their co-operation to the institutions. The non-governmental organizations can also play an important role in this respect. A constructive attitude should be adopted by all concerned and there should be no hesitation in condemning any critical situations that may arise in the Mediterranean Sea.



Excerpt from the statement of the President of the Bureau for the biennium 1988-1989
H.E. Mr Evangelos Kouloubis

ON MY part, I would like to wish this 5th Ordinary Meeting to become a milestone in the efforts that have been made by our countries to save and conserve the Mediterranean Environment.

My country will work with all its strength and power towards a successful outcome of the goals of the Mediterranean Action Plan in general.

I think that whatever the differences between the Mediterranean countries, these must not stand in the way of the implication of the very important decision they took several years ago by signing the Barcelona Convention. And this because the protection of the Mediterranean is connected with the survival of its peoples, themselves.

Two years have passed since the Genoa Meeting and the adoption of the relative Declaration. Many things have been achieved during this period but I believe that many more remain to be achieved.

Let us, therefore, work with faith that the aims we have set are worth all our efforts.

ENVIRONMENT AND WORLD POLITICS

THERE can be only one conclusion about the fifth ordinary meeting of the contracting parties that was held in Athens from the 7th to the 11th of September: the Mediterranean countries did not just "talk the talk" but also decided to "walk The Walk".

After five full days of deliberations the 16 Mediterranean countries attending the meeting, and the EEC, accepted unanimously a final report that opened new horizons for the protection of their common Sea. After the activity, and sometimes the tension, of the previous days, the delegations parted satisfied, renewing their rendez vous: they will meet again, 25 months later, in Athens.

Their satisfaction was not unjustifiable. They started a debate on the reorientation of the Programme, reached a decision concerning 100 sites of common mediterranean interest that should be protected, decided to review the draft of a new Protocol, adopted new environmental quality criteria for mercury and shellfish waters, aproved the budget for the biennium 1988-1989, discussed the progress of the on-going activities, expanded the functions of ROCC in Malta in order to include hazardous substances other than oil and, of course, elected the Bureau for the next two-year period.

After informal consultations, the Meeting as a result of a vote elected Greece at the Presidency of the Bureau. The other members of the Bureau include France and Turkey as Vice-Presidents and Libya as Rapporteur.

The delegations then proceeded in discussing the Executive Director's proposals concerning the reorientation of MAP. They invited the Bureau to study them extensively and decided to adopt the one referring to the establishment of a Scientific and



Technical Committee as well as a Socio-economic Committee, discontinuing, at the same time, the meetings of the National Focal Points for MEDPOL, ROCC, Blue Plan, PAP and SPA while, of course, the Focal Points continue their activity as usual. Mr Tolba's proposal concerning the creation of two more committees (a financial and a legal one) was not endorsed by the Meeting. According to the final report, "the functions of the suggested Financial and Management committee should be exercised by

the Bureau which meets regularly in periods between the Meetings of the Contracting Parties. So far as the suggested Legal Committee was concerned they considered that in any case such a committee would be convened only at a time when a legal instrument was being prepared".

The Meeting, though, did not restrain itself from discussing wider issues, such as the international situation and the consequences of politics on the environment. One can read in the Report:

"Some representatives referred to the existence of military bases of non-Mediterranean Powers in the region and to the presence of foreign fleets. Others stated that it was regrettable that parts of the Mediterranean region were suffering from disturbed political conditions and conflicts that threatened prospects for peaceful co-operation and hampered national and international efforts to give full effect to the provisions of the Barcelona Convention.

Many of the delegates pointed out that the Mediterranean served as a transit area for large numbers of ships that in many cases were responsible for causing pollution of the sea through the discharge of waste products at sea. They stressed that the ships concerned were engaged, for the most part, in transporting goods to or from industrialized countries not Parties to the Convention. Accordingly, they considered that the coastal States were in effect being expected to deal, in such cases, with a situation created by external factors.

A number of representatives referred to the diversity of the economic and social conditions prevailing in the Mediterranean region. They pointed out that the countries bordering the Northern shores of the Mediterranean Sea were, by and large, industrialized and relatively highly developed, whereas those bordering the Southern shores were at an earlier stage of economic development. In their opinion, this difference in economic status should be reflected in the level of contributions of the Contracting Parties to the Mediterranean Trust Fund. Accordingly they considered that the financial contributions of the developing Mediterranean countries should not be increased. In support of this view they cited the present precarious situation of the world economy as a whole".

THE FIFTH PROTOCOL

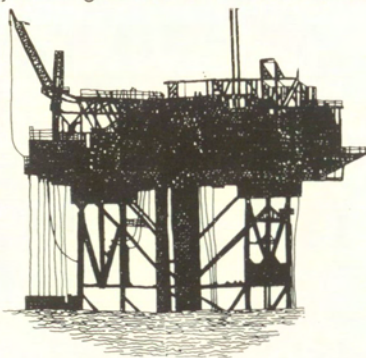
The Contracting Parties at the Genoa Meeting asked the secretariat to set agoing the process for the preparation of a Protocol on the protection of the Mediterranean Sea against pollution from off-shore exploration and exploitation.

Back in 1978 the International Juridical Organization had promoted and held a seminar on off-shore exploration and exploitation, treating in an interdisciplinary approach both the legal and technical aspects involved.

In 1986, UNEP convened in Athens a technical Consultation on the same subject.

The draft "Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution resulting from Exploration and Exploitation of the Continental Shelf and the Sea-bed and its Subsoil" was prepared by the secretariat of IJO in close co-operation with MAP's secretariat in Athens to implement the provisions of the Barcelona Convention (Article 7).

The main consideration, throughout the draft protocol, has been to project the great concern of the coastal



states to protect and improve the Mediterranean environment through preventing, abating, combating and controlling pollution which, in this case, is limited to pollution resulting from exploration and exploitation of the continental shelf, the sea-bed and its subsoil.

During the drafting process the differences between the legal systems and political philosophies of the coastal states has also been taken into account as well as the state of development of the mediterranean countries.

The draft protocol was presented to the delegations of the countries attending the Athens Meeting. The Conference decided that it should be reviewed by the national authorities, whose comments should reach the secreteriat by the end of September 1988, with a view to the convening of a working group in early 1989 and, if preparations are sufficiently advanced, to the convening of a plenipotentiary conference to consider and adopt the text later in that year.

Should the text be accepted it would become the fifth MAP Protocol and would be open immediately for ratification.

THE ORGANOSILICON ISSUE

The Contracting Parties, considering recent scientific evidence regarding the toxicity, persistence and bioaccumulation of organosilicon compounds and their status as actual or potential marine pollutants agreed to amend the Protocol for the prevention of pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by dumping from ships and aircraft (by deleting item 2 in annex I) and the Protocol for the protection fo the Mediterranean Sea against pollution from Land-Based Sources (by deleting item 3 in annex II). The delegations considered that any future control measures becoming necessary can be adequately covered by the provisions of the annexes to both protocols. However the EEC expressed its reservations as far as the amendment of the LBS Protocol is concerned. The reservation was reflected in the final report.

PILOT STUDIES FOR NEW PARAMETERS

The Contracting Parties decided that in addition to the list of monitoring parameters, pilot studies for the determination of the levels in selected areas, should be either continued or la-

unched as appropriate for the following parameters:

1. pollutant transport into the Mediterranean Sea through the atmosphere (ongoing since 1986);
2. organotin compounds (1987);
3. organophosphorus compounds (1987);
4. persistent synthetic materials (1987);
5. carcinogenic, teratogenic or mutagenic substances (1988).

On the basis of the results of the pilot studies, recommendations will be presented to the Scientific and Technical Committee for the possible introduction of the parameters in the National Monitoring Programmes.

LBS PROTOCOL : NEW CONTROL MEASURES TO PREVENT POLLUTION

The fifth ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties adopted the following recommendations as included in the Final report (pp. 79-81), for the progressive implementation of the provisions of the LBS Protocol.

The emission standards (effective implementation date: July 1, 1989) are designed to limit pollution by mercury and mercury compounds, while the Environmental Quality Criteria assure the microbiological quality of waters where shellfish live.

THE CONTRACTING PARTIES:

Approve measures to prevent mercury pollution presented below:

MEASURES TO PREVENT MERCURY POLLUTION

The Contracting Parties shall:

- a. Ensure a maximum concentration (to be calculated as a monthly average) of 50 µg mercury per litre (expressed as total mercury) for all effluent discharges before dilution into the Mediterranean sea, in terms of

Article 5 and annex I of the Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean sea against pollution from Land-based Sources;

- b. Enforce such measure, for those effluents so demanding, through compulsory monitoring requirements and procedures, including, where appropriate (a) the taking each day of a sample representative of the discharge over 24 hours and the measurement of the mercury concentration of that sample, and (b) the measurement of the total flow of the discharge during this period;
- c. Ensure that outfalls for new discharges of mercury into the sea would be designed and constructed in such a way as to achieve a suitable effluent dilution in the mixing zone so that the increase of mercury concentrations in biota and sediments at a radius of 5 km from the outfall structures will not be more than 50% above background levels. Existing discharges of mercury into the sea would be also adjusted as to progressively achieve, within a period of 10 years, the above mentioned objective. Appropriate monitoring should be implemented, for both existing and new discharges, for the verification of above;
- d. Provide the secretariat to the Convention with the fullest information possible on:
- legislation and administrative measures on existing national standards and criteria on mercury emissions into the marine environment and water quality regarding mercury;
 - measures taken relevant to (a), (b) and (c) above;
 - relevant monitoring data on (b) and (c) above.

Approve environmental quality criteria for shellfish waters presented below:

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY CRITERIA FOR SHELLFISH WATERS

The Contracting Parties shall:

- a. Take into account the provisions of Article 7.1 (c) of the Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution from Land-based Sources, regarding the quality of seawater used for specific purposes that is necessary for the protection

of human health, living resources and ecosystems;

- b. Adopt as a minimum common requirement for the quality of shellfish waters, the proposed WHO/UNEP interim environmental quality criteria, as detailed in (c) and (d) below and in the accompanying table;
- c. For the purposes of such criteria, consider the term "shellfish waters" to mean those coastal and brackish waters in which shellfish (bivalve and gastropod molluscs) live;
- d. Utilise the following in the application of such criteria:
- for the assessment of the microbiological quality of shellfish waters, the shellfish themselves shall be taken into account;
 - for the determination of microbiological parameters, preference shall be given to analysis of shellfish flesh and intervalvular fluid, rather than flesh alone;
 - the results of analysis of microbiological quality shall be expressed by the number of faecal coliforms recorded in 100 ml (FC/100ml);
 - the method of analysis utilised shall be incubation at $37 \pm 0.5^\circ\text{C}$ with fermentation on a liquid substrate for a period of 24 to 48 hours, followed by a confirmation test at $44 \pm 0.2^\circ\text{C}$ for 24 hours. Enumeration shall be effected according to the Most Probable Number (MPN) method;
 - the concentration of faecal coliforms should be less than 300 per 100

ml of shellfish flesh and intervalvular fluid or of flesh alone, in at least 75% of the samples, based on a minimum sampling frequency of once every three months;

- e. Take any other complementary measures, such as increasing sampling frequency, including further parameters, and monitoring of the quality of the water itself in shellfish areas, as may be demanded by national or local circumstances for ensuring satisfactory quality of shellfish waters;
- f. Include, to the extent possible, all shellfish waters in their National Monitoring Programmes within the framework of MED POL-PHASE II;
- g. provide the secretariat to the Convention with the fullest information possible on:
- legislation and administrative measures on existing national criteria for shellfish waters;
 - measures taken on (b) and (e) above;
 - relevant monitoring data from (f) above;
- h. continue to provide full support to the research and monitoring component of MED POL - PHASE II relevant to the assessment of the environmental quality of shellfish waters, in particular to studies on the comparability of faecal coliforms and *E. coli* determinations, as well as on the usefulness of other indicator organisms.

SUMMARY TABLE

Criteria for shellfish waters in the Mediterranean

Matrix	Shellfish.
Parameter	Faecal coliforms.
Concentration	less than 300 per 100 ml flesh + intervalvular fluid or flesh, in at least 75% of the samples.
Minimum sampling frequency	every 3 months (more frequently whenever local circumstances so demand).
Analytical method	Multiple tube fermentation and counting according to MPN (most probable number) method. Incubation period: $37 \pm 0.5^\circ\text{C}$ for 24 h or 48 h, followed by $44 \pm 0.2^\circ\text{C}$ for 24 h
Interpretation method	By individual results, histograms or graphical adjustment of a lognormal - probability distribution.

RAZVOJ/DEVELOPMENT-INTERNATIONAL. Vol II, No I January-June 1987. This journal for problems of socio-economic development, developing countries and international relations is published twice a year by the Institute for Developing countries, Zagreb, Yugoslavia.

RAZVOJ/DEVELOPMENT - INTERNATIONAL is a forum for scientific thought on social, economic, political, cultural, technological environmental and other developmental problems, particularly in the context of the experience and development goals of developing countries and their role in the international relations.

In the editorial note one can read:

"This issue of Razvoj/Development - International is devoted to the development problems in the Mediterranean.

It is hardly necessary to explain the decision to have a Mediterranean issue of our journal. The Mediterranean has for centuries been an area of great civilizational and economic importance for our world, and it is now undergoing major changes to adjust to new conditions, find its identity and achieve progress on the eve of the twenty-first century.

The interpretation and solution of complex development problems in the Mediterranean have been an ever greater challenge for science and politics in this region. In this connection there has been a growing intraregional communication for the last several years: some international organizations have launched specialized Mediterranean programmes and projects; there is a growing intraregional exchange of information; contacts among Arab, West and East European scholars are becoming ever more frequent."

EKISTICS Vol. 53, No 316/317. Ekistics, the review on the problems and science of Human Settlements is published, since 1955, by the Athens Centre of Ekistics of the Athens Technological Organization. It is one of the most prominent publications on this subject, worldwide.

Ekistics decided to devote two double issues Nos 316/317 and 318/319 to the Mediterranean. The review's editor Mr Panayis Psomopoulos notes in the first issue's editorial:

"Here we come to the Mediterranean again - this time with the results of multidisciplinary research work on the structure, the functioning and the evolution of Human Settlements in this historic, but still very dynamic, cradle of civilization.

The region has always been one of the central themes of study in the Athens Centre of Ekistics since its establishment twenty-five years ago. Our readers are familiar with the Research and Documentation efforts of the ACE and also with its annual international symposia, conferences and educational programs that have been regularly reported in EKISTICS- the Delos Symposia, for example, or the "Ancient Greek Cities", the "Comparative Study of Metropolitan Areas", the "Human Community" and the "City of the Future" research projects - all of which, to a greater or lesser degree, dealt and continue to deal with the Mediterranean. Readers will also be familiar with the special issue of EKISTICS on the Mediterranean (volume 48, number 290, September/October 1981), and with the large number of other articles with Mediterranean themes that are included in many other issues of the journal. This is probably one of the reasons for the very large number of papers, reports and other documents on the region that authors - geographers, architects, historians, town and regional planners, economists, sociologists, anthropologists, administrators, experts in communications, culture, the arts and technology - not only from the Mediterranean countries, but literally from all over the world, keep sending for consideration and possible publication.

To make the best use of the maximum possible number of documents at hand, EKISTICS will devote two double issues to Human Settlements in the Mediterranean:

The Mediterranean - I and II: Urban networks at the regional, the national and the local scale (Volume 53, nos. 316/317); and,

The Mediterranean - III and IV: Response to problems within the local cultural contexts (volume 53, nos. 318/319).

This present double issue is a further contribution to a more specific understanding of the particular nature and real essence of the Mediterranean heritage and its po-

tential for the future. The papers focus mainly on the analysis of the evolution and present status of large scale settlement networks, and also on the planning for a desirable future of such selected networks at the national scale, emphasizing socio-economic, demographic and territorial organizational aspects.

The 17 contributions consist of theoretical essays and objective reports on quantitative research findings concerning Human Settlements in the region through the ages, and also on recent fundamental changes, problems and policy of planning strategies, in the national territories of Greece, Italy, Libya, Tunisia, Turkey; and in selected regions of Egypt, France, Greece, Israel, Lebanon, Malta, Spain, Syria and Yugoslavia."

THE MAP CALENDAR OF MEETINGS

1987

Consultation Meeting on monitoring of land-based sources of marine pollution in the Mediterranean	1-5 Dec. Split
Meeting of the Steering Committee of the Blue Plan	8-9 Dec. Sophia
Experts meeting to review results of ongoing research projects on work of transport of pollutants by sedimentation	9-12 Dec. Villefranche

1988

Inter-Agency Advisory Committee for MED POL (IAAC - XXI)	13-15 Jan. Athens
Consultative meeting on conservation of Mediterranean Monk Seal	11-12 Jan. Athens
Meeting of the Bureau of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention (Bureau 31)	March Athens
Intercalibration Meeting on the analysis of organotin	March Monaco
Ad hoc Consultation Meeting on monitoring	April Athens
Consultation Meeting on carcinogenic substances	May Athens
Training course on treatment and interpretation of biological effects data	May Piran
Meeting of the Scientific and Technical Committee	23-27 May Athens
Meeting of the Task Team on implications of climatic changes in the Mediterranean	30 May- 3 June Bellagio, Italy

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If you would like to propose an article on a subject related to marine science, please address to: Spyros Vretos, Editor. MEDWAVES, Co-ordinating Unit of the Mediterranean Action Plan, 48 Vas. Konstantinou Ave., 116 35 Athens Greece. Tel. (00301) 7236.586. Telex 222 611 MEDU-GR

100

In our previous issue we presented the criteria according to which ICOMOS (the International Council of Monuments and Sites) selected 100 sites of cultural and historic importance common to all Mediterranean countries.

The delegations attending the Athens Meeting, approved the criteria and took note of the initial list. The 100 sites, representing the Byzantine, Etruscan, Greek, Islamic, Phoenician and Roman civilizations, were finalized during the Meeting. Two thirds of the places and works chosen as crucial in the history of the Mediterranean culture are to be found in four countries:

Greece, Italy, Spain and Turkey. More sites may be added later. UNEP proposed that countries report annually on the state of the sites.

It was suggested that the preservation of the chosen sites be a "bridge-head for action" extending to nearby places of historic and cultural value.

The list now includes:

ALBANIA

Apollonia
Dyrrachion

ALGERIA

Algiers
Cherchell
Hippone
Tipasa

CYPRUS

Famagusta
Khiriotikia
Kourion
Limassol
Paphos
Salamis

EGYPT

Abou Mina
Cairo, Giza, Memphis,
Saqqara
Necropolis of Alexandria

FRANCE

Aigues Mortes
Arles
Cucuruzzu and Filitosa
(Corsica)
Fréjus
Marseille: Old Port

GREECE

Athens
Corfu
Crete
Delos
Delphi
Epidauros and Nauplion
Mount Athos
(natural/cultural site)
Mycenae-Tiryns
Mystras
Olympia
Paros and its quarries
Rhodes
Salonica
Samos
Thera (natural/cultural site)
Thassos and its quarries

ISRAEL

Acre
Caesarea on the Sea

ITALY

Agrigento
Amalfi
Aquileia
Bari
Quarries of Carrara
Nuraghic complex of
Su Nuraxi,
Barumini (Sardinia)
Genoa
Lecce
Naples, Pompei, Herculaneum
and the Phlegrean fields
Paestum/Poseidonia
Palermo and Monreale
Pisa
Ravenna
Rome and Ostia
Segesta
Selinus
Syracus
Tarquinia and the main
Etruscan necropolises

Trieste

Venice and its lagoon

LEBANON

Byblos
Sidon
Tyre

LIBYAN ARAB JAHAHIRIYA

Cyrene
Leptis Magna
Sabratak

MALTA

Ggantija
Hal Saflieni
Valletta

MOROCCO

Tetuan

MONACO

Museum of Oceanography
(cultural and natural site)

SPAIN

Ampurias
Barcelona

Cordova

Granada

Ibiza: fortifications of Alt Vila
Mallorca: Cathedral and
Palacio de Palma

Malaga

Minorca: Toulas, talayots
and navetas

Murcia

Seville

Tarragona

Valencia and Albufera

SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC

Ugarit/Ras Shamra

TUNISIA

Carthage and Sidi Bou Said
Jerba (cultural/natural site)
El Jem
Kerkouan
Susa
Tunis

TURKEY

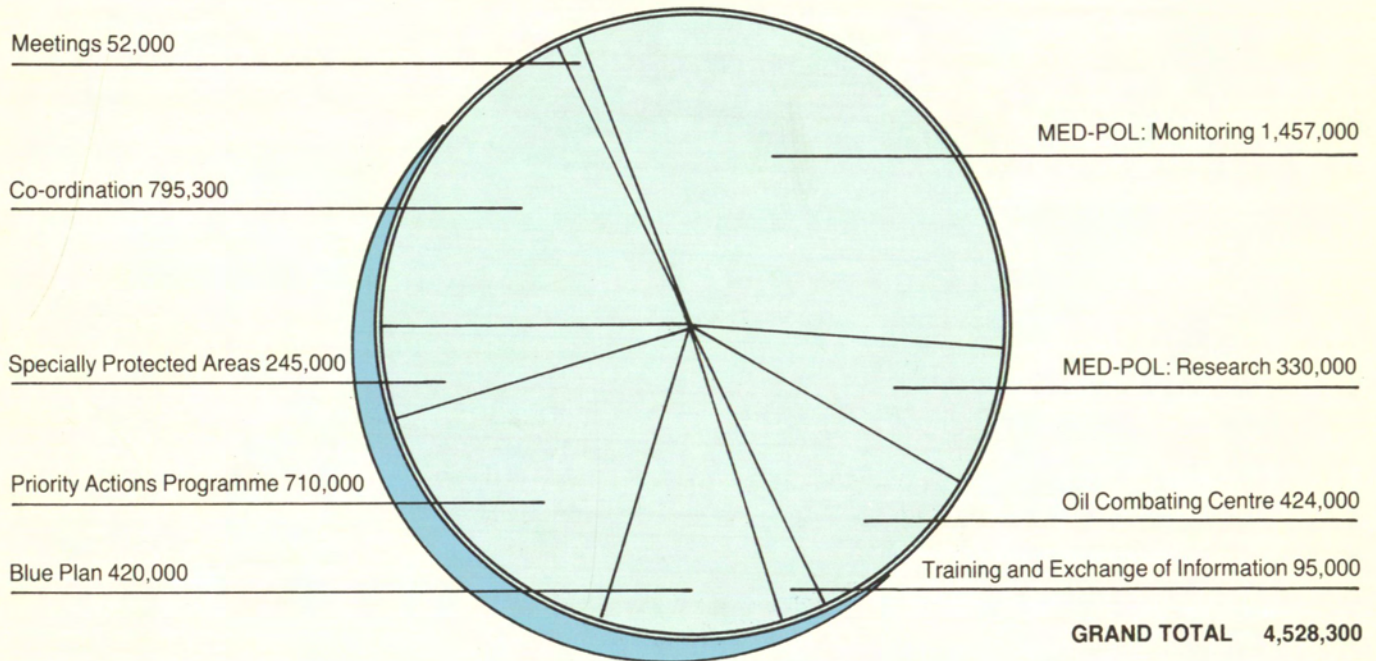
Antalya
Aspendus
Bursa
Didyma
Ephesus
Fethiye-Olüdeniz
(natural-historical)
Halicarnassus
Istanbul
Kaunos
Kekova (natural-historical)
Knidos
Milet
Pergamum
Phaselis
Priene
Troy
Xanthus

YUGOSLAVIA

Dubrovnik
Hvar and Korcula
Split
Trogir (natural/cultural site)
Zadar (natural/cultural site)
Kotor

1988 MAP BUDGET: APPROPRIATION OF EXPENSES

(U.S. \$)



CONTRIBUTION TO THE MED TRUST FUND

