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4th Meeting of the Steering Committee of
the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development

Corfu, 22-23 June 2000

**Report of the Secretariat for the fourth meeting of the Steering Committee
of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD)**

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I. Introduction

At their third meeting which was held in Tunis on 20 and 21 January 2000, the members of the Steering Committee of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development decided to convene the 4th meeting of the Steering Committee in Corfu, Greece on 22 and 23 June 2000, at the invitation of the MCSD-EOAEN representative.

The main purpose of this 4th meeting is:

- to review the progress in the preparation of the Strategic Review for the year 2000: and
- to discuss the organization of the 6th MCSD meeting in Tunis and propose a provisional agenda;

Moreover, and depending on the time availability, the members of the Steering Committee will examine and advise on:

- the preparation for possible new themes;
- the progress of activities of the three on-going thematic working groups;
- follow up of the MCSD recommendations; and
- cooperation and visibility.

Before going through the items on the agenda of this meeting, it is important to recall briefly some of the decisions agreed upon at the previous meeting of the Steering Committee (attached as annex I) and that are of direct interest for this meeting:

- the overall plan of the report and the questionnaire were approved, with some corrections that have been duly incorporated in the final version of the framework documents that were sent to all MCSD members (attached as annex II);
- to establish a Coordinating and Drafting Committee that will analyze and synthesize all questionnaires with related reports together with the regional reports;
- to convene a meeting of the “Comite de Pilotage” for the preparation of the Strategic Review in Monaco (with Monaco as a new member to the “Comite de Pilotage”);
- to organize the 6th meeting of the MCSD jointly with UN-CSD, and discuss with concerned persons on practical steps;
- to prepare a draft agenda for the next MCSD meeting to be discussed and finalized by the Steering Committee;
- to propose ways for improving MCSD meetings, particularly by adopting a summary of conclusions and decisions rather than an in-extenso report, and holding break out working sessions for more in-depth discussions.

In order to make the best possible use of the time allocated to the meeting (a day and a half), a set of conclusions and decisions will be reviewed and adopted at the closure of the meeting, whilst the report of the meeting will be sent out to the members of the Steering Committee one week later to be examined and finalized. Moreover, and as the main purpose of this meeting is to review progress for the preparation of the Strategic Review, the two consultants of the Coordinating and Drafting Committee will be invited to present the results of their respective tasks and contribute to the discussions.

II. Strategic Review

At the last meeting of the Steering Committee held in Tunis, five background documents for the preparation of the Strategic Review were presented and discussed. These concern:

- a framework paper;
- the methodological approach;
- the questionnaire on Environmental Performance;
- the terms of reference for carrying out the strategic review; and
- a draft table of contents of the report.

Shortly after the meeting, these background documents were reviewed taking into account the comments expressed by the members of the Steering Committee; Thereafter, the Secretariat focused on the contributions expected from the MCSD members and the preparation of the regional Studies

a. Questionnaire and national/members reporting:

In order to provide the MCSD members with a clear idea of the large context in which the Strategic Review is being prepared, the questionnaire was sent to all MCSD members, representative of Countries as well as other partners from the "Civil Society", together with the framework paper, the methodological approach and the part of the terms of reference related to their tasks.

Even though the questionnaire concerns mainly the countries with related policies and decisions, it was also sent to the 15 other MCSD members (the outgoing and the new ones, therefore about 30) requesting them to select and answer the questions to which they could provide information of interest for the preparation of the Strategic Review.

The questionnaire was sent to all MCSD members and the Regional Activity Centres between 15 and 20 February 2000 by mainly e-mail, and by fax or urgent mail to only three members, requesting them to send back the duly filled in questionnaire by the end of April latest; later on, guidelines for the preparation of national reports were proposed to the MCSD members, in order to have their synthesis about main decisions and actions presented in a comparable way. Expected to give a comprehensive view of the Country's efforts towards sustainable development, the proposed guidelines for the preparation of the national reports, forwarded to the MCSD members early April 2000, were structured as follows:

- Introduction: major development-environment issues (1p)
- Major steps towards sustainable development (2p)
- Positive achievements-results-trends (1-2 p)
- Failures and bottlenecks, difficulties (1-2 p)
- Opportunities for corrective action-intervention (1-2p)
- Risks and threats; anticipated difficulties (1-2 p)
- Lessons from the country's experience (1p)
- Mediterranean Environment Strategy issues (1p)
- Expectation from and cooperation with MAP (1p)

In order to ensure preparation of the questionnaire and the national reports in due time, several reminders were sent to concerned persons until and even after the deadline of end of April 2000. It is important to note that no financial support was provided from the Secretariat for their preparation and that MCSD members have in general shown great interest in carrying on this work. As of June 6, 2000 the status of reporting is as follows:

- Questionnaires submitted before 12 May: Bosnia and Herzegovina, City of Rome, Croatia, EC, Greece, Italy, Malta, Medcities, MIO-ECSDE, Municipality of Calvia, MEDWET
- National reports submitted before 12 May: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Greece, Italy, Malta
- Questionnaire submitted before 6 June: Egypt, France, Lebanon, Libya, Monaco, Spain, Tunisia, Turkey
- National reports submitted before 6 June: Spain, Tunisia, Turkey
- Questionnaires not yet received from : Albania, Algeria, Cyprus, Israel, Morocco, Slovenia, Syria

All information provided by the MCSD members are being processed by a consultant for the drafting of Chapter III of the Strategic Review on "Sustainable Development in the Mediterranean", before its review and integration in the overall report by another consultant and the Secretariat.

b. Consultants and Regional Studies:

Immediately after the third meeting of the Steering Committee, the Secretariat has looked for the various consultants required; given the limited financial resources and mainly the short period of time for the preparation of the various reports, the selection of the consultants turned out to be a difficult exercise for certain tasks. Finally, the following consultants agreed to take up the challenge with us:

- Mr Aldo Manos, former UNEP/MAP Coordinator and president of an Italian NGO, for the regional study on “Civil Society, MAP and Sustainable Development in the Mediterranean”;
- Mr Paolo Bifani and Mr Magdi Ibrahim, respectively former UNEP professional and consultant to various UN Agencies, and director of ENDA Maghreb, for the regional study on “Regional Cooperation in the Mediterranean Region”;
- Mr Arsen Pavasovic, former PAP/RAC director, for the regional study on “MAP/Barcelona system vis à vis sustainable development”;

To assist the Secretariat in the overall coordination and mainly preparation of the “Strategic Review” report, the following consultants have agreed to join us:

- Mr Harry Coccossis, University professor in Greece and Consultant, for mainly the analysis and synthesis of questionnaires and national reports and contribution to the “performance” and “recommendations” chapters;
- Mr Mohamed Ennabli, former president/director of the National Environment Agency (ANPE) and the National Research Institute (INRST), for the analysis and synthesis of the regional studies and the overall drafting of the report of the Strategic Review.

To avoid misunderstandings and ensure that the terms of reference are clearly perceived, together with identification of right persons/institutions and necessary documents, a briefing and technical working session was organized in early March 2000 in MEDU premises with the above experts. Respective and detailed terms of reference for these experts are included in the background document related to “Terms of Reference for Carrying out the Strategic Review “, section 4.

In order to review the progress of work and as agreed upon at the third meeting of the Steering Committee, the “Comite de Pilotage” for the preparation of the Strategic Review met in Monaco on 11 May 2000, followed on 12 May by a working session between the Coordinating and Drafting Team to discuss practical steps and timetable for next tasks.

The “Comite de Pilotage” reviewed all activities undertaken until early May by the members of the MCSD and the regional experts. The discussions were open and it was obvious that the preparation of the Strategic Review is a major step in MAP activities and that the expectations are rather high. Some of the MCSD members seem to have invested a lot in the preparation of the questionnaire and the national report and some of the regional studies have gone through such an in-depth analysis that it would be interesting to consider a further exploitation of the content of these reports after the preparation of the Strategic Review. These documents (questionnaires, national reports and regional studies) and their contents do constitute a wealthy information set that could be further analyzed and used at national and regional levels.

Throughout the discussions, the members of the "Comite de Pilotage" have insisted on:

- the necessity to avoid north-south approach;
- the importance of reaching practical and concrete recommendations;
- the priority to be given to political issues over funds availability;
- the ability of using the Mediterranean differences as a "cement" for Mediterranean development and cooperation;
- giving due consideration to the strategic aspect of the review rather than the technical one; and
- preparing, through the Strategic Review, for a Mediterranean vision to be then considered as a framework for MAP and partners.

A few days after the meeting of the "Comite de Pilotage", specific comments were forwarded to all regional experts on their respective activities and reports, and MCSD members, mainly countries, were, as appropriate, urged to submit their questionnaires and national reports as soon as possible. As of 6 June 2000, the status of regional reporting is as follows:

- "Civil Society": draft report submitted by Mr Manos on 28 April 2000 and reviewed version requested for early June 2000;
- "Regional Cooperation": draft report submitted by Mr Bifani on 5 May 2000 and reviewed version requested for early June 2000; draft report submitted by Mr Ibrahim on 19 May 2000 and reviewed version requested for 9 June 2000.
- "MAP System": draft report submitted by Mr Pavasovic on 18 May 2000 and reviewed version received end of May 2000;
- Concerning the analysis and synthesis of questionnaires and national reports, it was difficult for Mr Coccossis to prepare his report as contributions from MCSD members were being received until recently, and some others are still expected. However, a preliminary draft report will be presented by the consultant at the meeting of the Steering Committee, and if possible it would be forwarded by e-mail to the members few days before the meeting;
- Regarding Mr Ennabli's contribution, a draft of the first two chapters was presented and discussed by the "Comite de Pilotage" and a more substantive version, including synthesis of the draft regional studies, was received early June 2000. This draft report will be presented by the consultant at the meeting of the Steering Committee, keeping in mind that it represents a preliminary version of what could be the report of the Strategic Review (sent to the members of the Steering Committee together with the draft reports related to the regional studies).

Considering the activities undertaken until now and the reports received, and what could be reasonably expected as new contributions from MCSD members and revised version of the regional studies, it is expected that:

- immediately after the meeting of the Steering Committee, the regional consultants will be requested to finalize their respective reports by giving due consideration to any additional comments;
- the Coordinating and Drafting Team will work intensively in the two weeks following the Steering Committee so as to have an overall draft for the Strategic Review to be sent to all MCSD members by mid-July (19 July latest) for their review and comments for early September (15 September latest);
- comments received from MCSD members and partners will be incorporated in the final version of the Strategic Review that will be forwarded to the participants of the 6th MCSD meeting by mid-October 2000;
- the final version of the Strategic Review that will be then published and widely disseminated will be prepared during December 2000 and January 2001; a communication strategy for this Strategic Review should be then devised, at national, regional and international levels.

The members of the Steering Committee are expected to review the progress of work for the preparation of the national and regional contributions and advise on further steps.

III. Thematic Working Groups: progress

Out of the eight themes of the work programme of the MCSD, three are still on-going. They concern "Industry and Sustainable Development", "Free Trade and Environment in the Euromediterranean context" and "Urban Management and Sustainable Development", with more intensive work for the last two subjects.

The "Industry" group, that is expected to hold a meeting of its members before the next MCSD meeting, is concentrating its efforts on the preparation of some guidelines and inventories which will be backed up by a set of practical tools needed to update the industrial sector, SMEs in particular, within a sustainable development context.

As for "Free Trade", a meeting of experts attended by the task managers, the support Centre and MEDU together with experts from the EC and Tunisia was held on 7 April 2000 in Paris, in cooperation with Comite 21. In view of the major workshop that is expected to be held in September 2000, probably in France, several regional and national studies are being prepared:

- 4 regional retrospective analysis with lessons for the Mediterranean;
- 3 regional thematic analysis (agrofood, industry, consumption patterns);
- 6 national analysis on the environmental aspects of the Association Agreements; and
- 6 sectorial analysis in various countries.

All corresponding reports are expected during June 2000 so that BP/RAC can analyze and synthesize them for the Workshop. From the discussions, the following points have been highlighted: lessons should be drawn from "Seattle" crisis, to be careful with lessons from other regional cases, need to produce and communicate results of the working group as soon as possible so as to influence the on-going Euromediterranean process; From the Workshop in September, a set of recommendations and proposals for action will be prepared and discussed at the next MCSD meeting, so that they can be "tested" during the intersessional period before the 7th MCSD meeting.

Regarding the "Urban" theme, a meeting of experts attended by the task managers, the support Centres and experts from France, Morocco, City of Rome and Greece was held on 10-11 April 2000 in Paris, in close cooperation with the local office of MED Cities. Considering the amount of work still to be done, the major workshop is planned during the second quarter of 2001; meanwhile, the support centres are expected to undertake:

- a "state of the art" document on "urban management and sustainable development in the Mediterranean Region";
- a series of specific studies through short and focused questionnaires to be addressed to concerned national authorities and also 60 to 80 Mediterranean cities;
- identification of specific indicators;
- preparing a set of guiding principles for urban management and sustainable development;

Three sets of recommendations are foreseen; those would concern:

- strengthening capacity of local management;
- ways and means for anticipating and avoiding negative developments;
- promoting and strengthening cooperation between and among Mediterranean cities towards sustainable development.

The Steering Committee is requested to invite and induce dynamic participation in the preparatory activities for these themes so as to reach realistic and practical recommendations.

IV. Follow-up of MCSD recommendations

At the fifth meeting of the MCSD, it was agreed that:

- follow up measures should be envisaged by the Contracting Parties when adopting proposals for action and recommendations put forward by the MCSD;

- in this connection, the Contracting Parties should adopt a system of reports on implementation that should be communicated to the MCSD;
- communication with the Contracting Parties and other partners should be improved to ensure that the MCSD activities benefit from a multiplier effect;
- a pilot project approach should be promoted;

At the Eleventh Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties, an ad-hoc working group discussed the issues of implementation and follow up of recommendations made by the MCSD and the following was agreed upon:

- the Contracting Parties recognize the need for follow up measures and encourage the MCSD to draw up a strategy for this purpose, so as to help in evaluating the effectiveness of the action undertaken. The Contracting Parties also undertake to adopt the necessary measures to implement and follow up the recommendations adopted;
- the Contracting Parties will endeavor to identify and involve other partners in the implementation of the Commission's recommendations.

Considering that the MCSD needs for a greater visibility and a broader circulation of its results together with demonstration/pilot cases as a testing to the implementation of the recommendations and proposals for action, the following activities have been or are being implemented:

- off-prints for wider dissemination have been prepared for the recommendations on "Tourism and Sustainable Development" by BP/RAC, and another one is being prepared for the recommendations on "Sustainable Development Indicators". Other off-prints were previously prepared for the proposals related to "Sustainable Management of Coastal Regions" and to "Management of Water demand". However, the Secretariat still needs to define and implement a more systemic communication strategy regarding the product, its structure and content, and its dissemination.
- a project that has received financial support from the EC on "Information, Awareness and Public participation in the Arab speaking countries" is being adapted to a pilot implementation of related MCSD recommendations with relevant contributions from countries, NGOs and regional partners, to be presented and discussed at a major workshop to be held in Cairo on 21-23 October 2000.
- preparation of several national studies on "Information and Participation" were induced in Algeria, Tunisia, Lebanon, Albania, Syria and Croatia; most of them are being finalised and MAP/MEDU intends to encourage their publication and wide dissemination;
- preparation of a case study on "Tourism" recommendations was prepared in Lebanon and Turkey, and another one on "Coastal Management " is being prepared in Libya;

- In accordance with the programme approved by the Contracting Parties in which some of the MCSD proposals were included, BP/RAC is preparing the "White Book" on Tourism and PAP/RAC has prepared a guiding note for the assessment of Tourism carrying capacity; moreover, both Centres are actually preparing, in cooperation with MEDU, two major regional projects on "Tourism" and "Coastal Zone Management" to be submitted soon for MEDA/SMAP funding;
- As approved by the MCSD, BP/RAC is inducing the Contracting Parties to work out the set of 130 indicators, providing them with framework documents, guidelines, technical assistance and if necessary and feasible some financial support;

Despite these various activities, it is important that:

- the Secretariat and concerned RACs develop a systematic and well-structured "implementation and follow up strategy for MCSD recommendation", with an identification of necessary ways and means together with relevant partners and expected outputs;
- the Contracting Parties and other MCSD members take the necessary measures to implement and follow up the MCSD recommendations, and inform the Secretariat and the MCSD about their methodology and results;
- to encourage twinning "implementation and follow up" pilot cases between MCSD members, with, where necessary, some technical and financial assistance as incentive.

The Steering Committee is invited to comment on the above issues and advise the Secretariat and the MCSD members on how to improve the implementation and follow up of the recommendations.

V. Possible New Themes: preparatory activities

In conformity with the discussions at and recommendations of the meetings of the 5th MCSD (1-3 July 1999), the 11th CP (27-30 October 1999) and the 3rd Steering Committee of the MCSD (20-21 January 2000), the Secretariat has launched the preparatory process for the possible new themes/issues that could be incorporated in the next programme of work of the MCSD, expected to start on January 2002.

Considering the necessity of going through a "maturing" process before deciding on whether to retain a proposed new theme, it was decided to prepare pre-feasibility studies for the already suggested new themes or other interesting ones, so as to proceed with the prioritization of the themes at the 6th MCSD meeting (November 2000). Then detailed feasibility studies will be prepared for the pre-selected ones before the final selection and their inclusion in the next work programme of the MCSD at the 7th MCSD meeting (October 2001).

By e-mail on 24 April 2000, the Secretariat has requested the MCSD members to express their interest before 22 May 2000, in contributing to this preparatory process. The few answers that were received were forwarded to concerned RACs.

For the already proposed themes/issues, the January meeting of MEDU and RACs Directors has requested the following MAP components to assume the responsibility for the preparation of the pre-feasibility studies , while associating interested MCSD members and concerned partners:

- Local management and sustainable development (with emphasis on matters specifically related to the wetlands, islands, mountainous or desert regions) (PAP/RAC);
- Sustainable management of marine natural resources (including fisheries) (SPA and PAP/RAC);
- Energy and transport and sustainable development (BP/RAC);
- Agriculture and the rural environment (including land use, erosion and desertification) (BP,PAP and ERS/ RACs);
- Consumption patterns and waste management (BP/RAC);
- Health and the environment (WHO and BP/RAC);
- Combatting poverty (UNDP and BP/RAC);
- Natural disasters (BP/RAC);
- International co-operation towards sustainable development (MEDU).

The pre-feasibility studies of 5 to 10 pages to be prepared in English or French, will consider the criteria of “importance” “assessment” “feasibility” and “methodology”, giving due attention to the following questions:

importance: what makes this a priority subject of importance to the MCSD and the Mediterranean? How do the countries of MAP and its partners perceive it?

assessment: what are the major stakes for the region and the countries in the short, medium and long term? How does this subject contribute to national and regional sustainable development in the Mediterranean? What added value can be expected as a result of the MCSD dealing with this subject?

feasibility: what information/knowledge is available in terms of quality, quantity, accessibility and use, and what work is already underway within MAP as well as in other national, regional or international bodies? What technical and financial means would be needed to include this subject in the MCSD’s programme, with the identification of some realistic and accessible potential sources?

methodology: given the level of knowledge and the technical and financial means either available or accessible, what would be the best adapted working method, a small group of experts or a classical working group? Over what period would the work in question be done, from 1 to 4 years, including the “maturing” period if needs be?

These pre-feasibility studies are expected for the end of August 2000 (mid-September latest).

The members of the Steering Committee are expected to exchange on this preparatory process and advise the Secretariat on ways and means for the presentation of the results of the studies and launching of the new themes by the MCSD.

VI. Cooperation with UN-CSD and other partners

Following the decision of the last meeting of the Steering Committee to organize the 6th MCSD jointly with UNCSD and relying on the positive commitments by the Assistant Director of the UN-Division for Sustainable Development who was regularly informed about the MCSD activities, inviting MAP through BP/RAC to participate to the Group of Experts on Indicators in 1996-1997 and attending the 4th meeting of the MCSD, the Secretariat met with the UN-CSD team end of February 2000, during the Ad Hoc Working Groups meeting.

All concerned persons in UN-CSD Secretariat were very cooperative and the Director of the UN-DSD was pleased by our joint activity, even though the financial support might not be at the level previously announced (about US\$50,000). We have then reviewed in detail all the practical steps for the organization of the joint meeting, including its agenda and the break-out working sessions.

Unfortunately, the Secretariat received on 30 March 2000 a letter from the Director of the UN-DSD informing us of their decision for not joining our meeting and not providing a financial. Considering the spirit of the letter that besides seems to give little consideration to our previous it was decided not to attempt getting back their participation, and to organize our 6th MCSD meeting as the previous ones, but with a Ministerial Segment.

However, considering the discussions at the CSD8 on the preparation for the Earth Summit II, the MCSD would gain a lot in visibility as an interesting regional and practical case if it could be associated to the preparatory process for this major event in 2002. To that end, in addition to being associated to some working groups directly or through UNEP, the MCSD could decide to summarize the report of the Strategic Review drawing out lessons from our regional experience and highlighting the importance of the regional level as a necessary bridge between global and national levels.

Considering the activities being undertaken by the OECD on Sustainable Development as well as by the Baltic Convention, the Secretariat intends to develop the cooperation with these two institutions for exchange of experience and possible technical and /or financial support to MCSD activities.

The Steering Committee is expected to exchange on the preparatory process for the Earth Summit II and to request the Secretariat of the MCSD to find ways and means for being actively associated to it.

VII. Sixth Meeting of the MCSD

It is proposed to organize the 6th meeting of the MCSD in Tunis from 20 to 23 November 2000 with the Ministerial Segment in the first day; considering that the UNFCCC meeting will be held from 13-24 November 2000 with the Ministerial Segment later in the second week, Mediterranean Ministers could attend the MCSD meeting before leaving for the UNFCCC; obviously, the large participation of Mediterranean Ministers and UN high level representatives, such as UNEP's Executive Director and UN-DESA Chief, will depend on the active promotion of our meeting by the Secretariat, the host country and MCSD members.

For the time being, the costs for the 6th MCSD meeting will be covered by the host country (Tunisia) and MAP; additional support would ensure a larger participation, from environment and development sectors, and a more satisfactory preparation, editing, publication and then exploitation of the Strategic Review.

Following the conclusions of the previous meeting of the Steering Committee, all MCSD members were requested to express their opinion regarding:

- the adoption of a summary of conclusions rather than an in-extenso report (that will be forwarded shortly after the meeting to the MCSD members for review): the answers received were all in favor of such a decision;
- the holding of break out sessions during the MCSD meeting (not in parallel with plenary sessions): the answers were generally favorable to this proposal, with some reserves related to the fact that the "delegations" will probably not have enough members so as to attend all break out sessions.

If there is a consensus for the first point, the Secretariat considers that it would be interesting and useful to have break out sessions during the MCSD meetings so as to provide the plenary with results of issues that would have been more thoroughly discussed; the fact that not all MCSD members will be able to participate to all break out sessions at the same time (about 3 sub-groups are envisaged to meet simultaneously) should not prevent from organizing such sessions; as an example, the MCSD thematic working groups are usually composed of about one-third of the MCSD members.

As the Secretariat together with the two other experts of the Coordinating and Drafting Team are still working on the analysis and synthesis of the questionnaires, national and regional reports, a detailed agenda for the 6th MCSD meeting with suggested topics for the break out sessions will be presented during the meeting of the Steering Committee. A preliminary Agenda is presented in annex III.

The Steering Committee is expected to agree on the provisional agenda for the Sixth MCSD meeting, to decide on the issue of break out working sessions and identify the partners to be invited.

VIII. Miscellaneous

At their last meeting in Malta, 9-10 May 2000, the members of the Bureau of the Contracting Parties have agreed on the following:

- to nominate the Federation of Egyptian Industries as the fifth representative of the socio-economic group in the MCSD;
- to associate the Palestinian Authority to MCSD activities.

ANNEX I

Summary of conclusions of the third meeting of the Steering Committee of the MCSD, 20-21 January 2000, Tunis

The Steering Committee noted with interest the content of the meeting's working document on which it took the following decisions:

I. STRATEGIC REVIEW FOR THE YEAR 2000

1. Content of the report and questionnaire

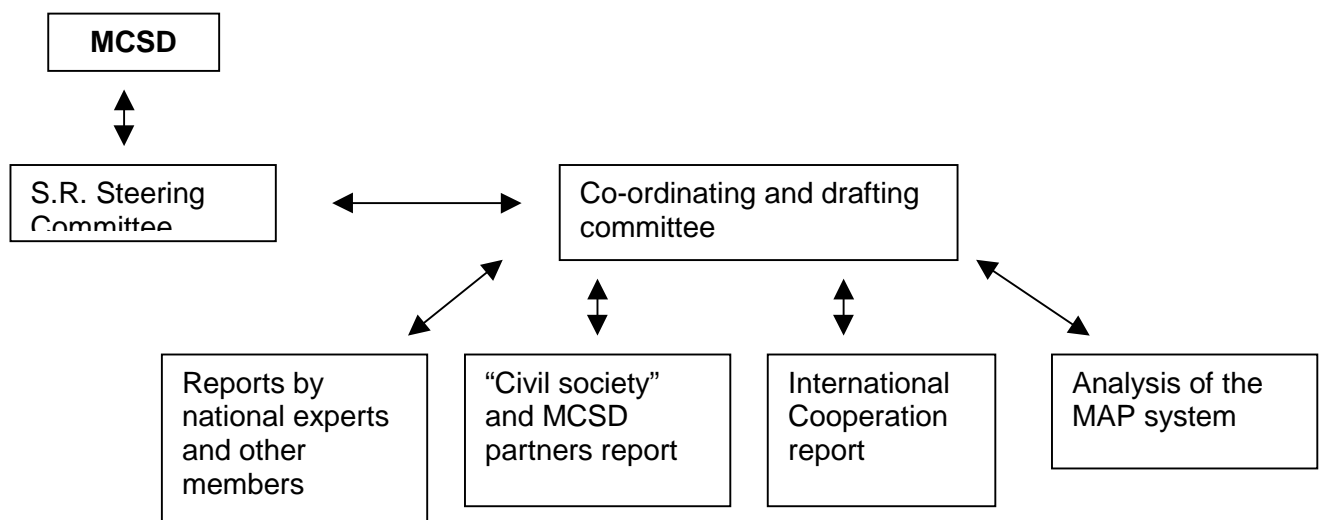
- ◆ The Steering Committee approved the overall plan for the report and the questionnaire and agreed on the following:

- a) to take account of the following points for completing the documents on the launch of preparatory activities:
 - to remain within a context of sustainable development without favouring the environment to the detriment of the development components;
 - to extend the list of themes to be dealt with by adding services (particularly financial ones), new communication technologies, awareness raising and education, cross-border co-operation (particularly regarding the transfer of know-how), and underscoring the role of the NGOs, local authorities and socio-economic organisations ;
- b) to recall in the "stakes":
 - that it is the sea which links Mediterraneans and constitutes their common concern;
 - that there is still a disparity between the two banks of the Mediterranean which should be borne in mind right throughout the analysis;
 - that climate change could seriously affect the region;
 - that the Mediterranean is exposed to the risks of shipping and a quantitative reduction of its natural resources.
- c) not to over-focus on MAP and to extend the Review to the other players in sustainable development;
- d) to use the indicators advisedly, striving to quantify them in the future without ending up with a "Report on the state of the environment";
- e) to focus on the institutional aspect of the implementation of decisions rather than on the technical details;
- f) to put the Mediterranean in the global perspective, bearing in mind in particular the major international conventions to which should be added the Convention on Biodiversity;
- g) to rightly assess the importance and impact of regional co-operation, particularly the Euro-Mediterranean partnership and bilateral, intra- and extra-Mediterranean co-operation.

2. Organisation of work

◆ At practical level, the Steering Committee agreed:

- a) to inform the members of the MCSD without delay that they should immediately get ready to tackle the tasks required by the preparation of the Strategic Review, asking them to indicate within a fortnight which expert or consultant will carry out the work;
- b) to send the questionnaire to the national delegates in the MCSD as well as the members from the three categories, asking the latter for their specific contribution, since the countries will retain responsibility for producing and validating information which relates to them;
- c) to ensure the participation and active contribution of all players in civil society, particularly the members of the three categories of the MCSD;
- d) as far as possible to give immediate priority to the preparation of synoptic reports of the various contributions;
- e) to ensure that information already available within MAP as well as in the countries and international institutions is put to the best possible use;
- f) to entrust the working party on the Strategic Review with appointing the S.R. steering committee, to add Monaco to its ranks and to take up Monaco's offer to host the forthcoming meeting of this committee;
- g) to suggest to Mr. Batisse that he join the drafting committee which will otherwise consist of Mr. Ennabli and Mr. Hoballah, and to give positive consideration to France's offer of assistance;
- h) to adopt a working structure which can be represented in diagram form as follows:



3. Financing

Finally, at financing level, to use as a priority the resources already available, i.e. 50 000 dollars (MAP/EU and Monaco) to support the drawing up of documents. The resources should help to finance the regional reports ("civil society", "international co-operation", "analysis of the MAP system"), and if necessary to support the national experts. The Secretariat will continue to seek additional funding.

- ◆ The model Review and the questionnaire will be reviewed in the light of comments made by the Steering Committee and sent as soon as possible to all members of the MCSD and experts.

II. INTEGRATION OF THE NEW MEMBERS OF THE MCSD

- ◆ Confirm the recommendations of the Malta meeting aimed at involving new members so requesting in the inter-session activities of the working groups, the task managers remaining unchanged;
- ◆ Invite the former active members of the working groups interested in so doing to continue to assist in the follow-up to recommendations in co-operation with the Secretariat and the relative MAP Centres;
- ◆ Encourage the MCSD members to network in order to implement the MCSD's recommendations.

III. NEW THEMES AND ISSUES

- ◆ The selection of new themes should be the fruit of a gradual maturing process; the sixth meeting of the MCSD will be asked to classify the work themes by priority, the aim being for the seventh meeting to make the final selection;
- ◆ To facilitate the work of the sixth meeting ("theme prioritisation"), the Secretariat will carry out pre-feasibility studies using the criteria established in its report;
- ◆ According to the priorities set by the sixth meeting, the Secretariat will carry out detailed feasibility studies, with an eye to the selection and launch of the new themes;
- ◆ For all of this preparatory work the Secretary will, wherever appropriate, call on the expertise of the Commission members, the RACs, or will request the assistance of the competent international organisations;
- ◆ As far as completed themes are concerned, the Steering Committee recalled that the follow-up of recommendations should be ensured by encouraging the distribution of information, by publishing relevant studies and by inviting members to launch networked pilot or demonstration projects on the implementation of some of the recommendations, with the assistance of MAP, if necessary;

IV. CO-OPERATION WITH THE UN-CSD

- ◆ Continue and strengthen co-operation with the UN-CSD, particularly in the perspective of the Rio+10 process;
- ◆ Whilst retaining the principle of holding a parallel meeting on the MCSD during a session of the UN-CSD, it was agreed that this should be delayed until after the completion of the Strategic Review, in order to heighten the impact. Consequently, the parallel meeting could be held during the 2001 session;
- ◆ Combine the regional consultation meeting planned with the UN-CSD with the 6th meeting of the MCSD, thereby adding a new dimension to the latter and giving the Strategic Review a broader impact;
- ◆ Following discussions with the UN-CSD the Secretariat will produce a letter of invitation for the ministers and representatives of the CSD and UNEP for signature by the chairperson of the MCSD's Steering Committee;

V. AGENDA OF INTER-SESSION ACTIVITIES

- ◆ Apart from the follow-up activities for the completed themes already mentioned, continue and complete the three remaining themes from the Rabat programme for the 7th meeting of the MCSD in Turkey.

VI. NEXT MEETING OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE

- ◆ Given the very heavy workload for 2000- preparation of the Strategic Review, pre-feasibility studies, work on the remaining three themes and preparation of the sixth meeting of the MCSD- convene the 4th meeting of the Steering Committee in Corfu for 22 and 23 June 2000.

VII. SIXTH MEETING OF THE MCSD AND AGENDA

- ◆ invite the MCSD Secretariat to discuss with the UN-CSD the practical aspects of organising this 6th joint meeting, to be held from 21-25 November 2000 in Tunis;
- ◆ Focus the meeting on two major elements: the Strategic Review and the new themes;
- ◆ Establish the structure of the draft agenda, given that its content will be examined with the UN-CSD Secretariat before it is finalised at the next meeting of the Steering Committee in June 2000;
- ◆ Propose ways of improving MCSD meetings, particularly:

a) adopting a summary of conclusions and decisions at the end of the meeting as opposed to an *in extenso* report;

b) holding ad hoc working groups during meetings to provide substance for work in the plenaries.

Mediterranean Action Plan

Strategic Review for the Year 2000

- I. Framework Paper**
- II. Methodological Approach**
- III. Questionnaire on Environmental Performance**
- IV. Terms of Reference for carrying out the Strategic Review for the Year 2000**
- V. Draft table of content of report**

I. FRAMEWORK PAPER

Aim:

At their 11th ordinary meeting (Malta, 27-30 October 1999) the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the protection of the Mediterranean Sea and its protocols decided to carry out a strategic review in order to assess the implementation and effectiveness of measures adopted by the Mediterranean community and its partners towards sustainable development, considering in particular the recommendations and decisions taken by the contracting parties and any corresponding activities, in line with the remit of the MCSD.

The review will focus more specifically on steps taken by the ministries, and the decision taking process, in order to provide MAP and the MCSD with the political impetus required, to encourage synergy between partners and to strengthen strategic activities aimed at the sustainable development of the region, i.e. "development which respects the environment, is technically appropriate, economically viable and socially acceptable, which allows the needs of present day generations to be met without undermining the possibility of future generations to satisfy theirs."

This review is needed 5 years after the setting up of the MCSD, given the obvious difficulties which exist with the implementation of policies and projects on sustainable development, particularly the main elements of the Agenda 21 programme and MED 21.

The obstacles are well-known:

- improper use of natural resources.
- non-sustainable patterns of consumption and production.
- difficulty in stamping out short term interests and acquired rights.
- difficulties in solving questions of finance and the transfer of ecologically sound technologies.
- debt burden.
- limited political will.

Historical overview:

Population growth, urbanisation, "littoralisation", and tourist development are today contributing heavily to the rapid "anthropisation" of the Mediterranean landscape and the deterioration process in spite of increased and relatively long-established awareness marked by many initiatives involving States in the region as well as the international community.

1972: Setting up of UNEP, following the United Nations' Conference on the human environment in Stockholm.

1974: Setting up of UNEP's regional seas programme.

An international meeting in Monaco on the study of marine pollution establishes that the pollution of coastal waters is the main problem in the Mediterranean.

1975: Approval of MAP and MED POL in Barcelona by the Mediterranean States and the European Community, under the aegis of UNEP.

1976: Setting up in Barcelona of the Convention for the protection of the Mediterranean against pollution, MAP's legal instrument.

Adoption of 2 protocols:

- for the prevention of pollution by dumping.

- concerning the combating of pollution by oil and other harmful substances in cases of emergency.

REMPEC set up in Malta.

1977: Blue Plan/RAC set up in Sophia Antipolis and PAP/RAC in Split.

1980: Adoption in Athens of the Protocol for the protection of the sea against pollution from land-based sources.

1981: Launch of MEDPOL phase II.

1982: Protocol on Specially Protected Areas adopted in Geneva.

1985: SPA/RAC set up in Tunis.

Declaration from the Genova conference establishing 10 priority objectives in the MAP framework.

1987: MAP goes for the coastal areas management programme (CAMP).

1988: Publication of the Brundtland report- "Our Common Future"- which explains the concept of sustainable development: "Meeting the needs of the present without undermining the possibility of satisfying those of future generations".

Launch of the Mediterranean Environment Programme (MEP) by the World Bank and the EIB.

1989: Charter of 100 historic sites adopted in Marseilles.

1990: METAP launched to implement the MEP.

Adoption of the Nicosia Charter laying down long term strategies (horizon 2025) to encourage integrated coastal management in particular.

1992: Cairo Declaration on Euro-Mediterranean co-operation on the environment: "the common objective is to protect and restore the Mediterranean in order to allow sustainable development for all riparian states".

The UNCED in Rio adopts the concept of sustainable development and Agenda 21: a global partnership for sustainable development.

As far as the seas and coastal areas are concerned, Agenda 21 feels that states should:

- beef up UNEP's regional seas programme.
- encourage information exchange on matters concerning the sea and the coasts.
- co-operate in order to develop procedures allowing the comparison of reliable analysis data.

UNCED adopts the 2 conventions on biodiversity and climate change, as well as the principle of having a convention on desertification.

Setting up of Environment Ministries speeded up in the countries.

1993: The revision process of the "Barcelona system" starts in Antalya

ERS/RAC set up in Palermo

MEDO set up within the Blue Plan.

1994: The ministerial conference on sustainable development in the Mediterranean in Tunis adopts:

- the principle of setting up an MCSD within the MAP framework.

- Agenda MED 21: Agenda 21 in Mediterranean format.

The Offshore protocol on pollution resulting from the exploitation of the continental shelf, the seabed and its subsoil adopted in Madrid.

1995: MAP turns 20.

In Barcelona the contracting parties state their intent to use the convention for the protection of the Mediterranean as a tool for sustainable development.

To this end:

- the Barcelona convention and the dumping protocol were revised: integration of the notion of sustainable development and the concept of the Mediterranean basin.
- a new protocol on specially protected areas and biodiversity was adopted.
- MAP was reshaped: programme extended to the coastal areas, integrated resource management, pollution prevention and control. Priorities were established for the 10 years to come.
- the MCSD set up as an advisory body.
CP/RAC set up in Barcelona.

The Euro-Mediterranean conference commits itself to supporting sustainable development, the Barcelona convention and MAP through financial assistance from the MEDA programme.

1996: Land-based sources protocol amended in Siracusa. MED POL phase III (1996-2005) adopted and launched. Protocol on transboundary movements of hazardous waste adopted in Izmir.

MCSD programme of activities launched in Rabat:

Sustainable development and the Mediterranean

The main aims of the MCSD are:

- to identify and assess socio-economic and environmental problems in the spirit of Agenda MED 21.
- to track implementation of proposals made to the contracting parties.
- to encourage co-operation and exchange of information on sustainable development in the Mediterranean basin.

Agenda Med 21 provides a framework for reflection in order to identify aims to be reached by the region in the perspective of Agenda 21 in terms of:

- social and economic concerns.
- conserving and managing resources for the purpose of sustainable development.
- increasing the role of the main groups within society.
- increasing the means for implementation.

It takes account of the region's specific context, in particular as concerns tourism, shipping, cultural heritage, energy, fisheries, and aquaculture. It reflects the commitments already

made by the States, each within its own borders or all together within the framework of intra-Mediterranean co-operation. (Genova '86, Nicosia '90, Athens'91, Cairo '92, Antalya '93).

The revised MAP II which no longer deals exclusively with the marine environment, but rather shows increasing interest in the coastal areas- a human environment par excellence- is expected to propose strategies for solving the crucial problems of development and protecting the common Mediterranean heritage.

More and more obviously these strategies imply increased interest for all players in civil society.

In the wake of Rio and armed with an amended Barcelona convention, an Agenda MED 21 adapted to the Mediterranean context, an updated MAP, an MCSD broadly open to civil society and bolstered by a tradition of concertation going back a quarter of a century within the UNEP framework, the countries of the Mediterranean region seem perfectly entitled today to assess the progress made in the shaping and implementation of a regional strategy for sustainable development.

A large sector of the population has a deep-seated desire for development. However, resources are traditionally scarce and have been exploited for several thousand years, whilst the food needs of a population set to grow for several decades yet are becoming urgent.

Tourist pressure on a coveted coastline, increasing threats to a fragile ecosystem, the impact of the technologies of the future on traditional cultures....such are the challenges which the Mediterranean countries are asking to overcome.

Questions for the review :

The concept of sustainable development picks up well where environmental protection leaves off, by opening it up to society and human activity, and ridding them of any extremist temptations.

However,

Has it been adequately explained in the eco-region of the Mediterranean?

Has it been taken on board by planners, managers, and economic operators?

Has it mobilised all of the movers in civil society?

Have the efforts which it demands been translated into political language and have the relevant strategic recommendations to which it gives rise been reflected in action programmes?

Have the ad hoc Mediterranean structures set up fulfilled their mandate?

Have the regional partners fully played their role?

To what degree have States really committed themselves to implementing the decisions taken towards sustainable development in terms of:

- government support for projects and activities towards sustainability.
- institutional reforms.
- the integration of environmental concerns in development programmes.
- capacity building.

What can we say objectively today in terms of performance and results achieved since 1995 by all players at the various levels:

Euro- Mediterranean level

Mediterranean level (MAP, MCSD, partners)

National level/local level/ at the level of civil society (NGOs).

What analyses can we carry out and using which tools in order to identify loopholes, constraints, trends and possible alternatives to speed up the decision-taking process and good governance in the perspective of sustainable development?

What should we reasonably expect of our regional partners, the contracting parties, MAP and the MCSD, civil society, local authorities and the private sector in terms of commitment and means?

These are some of the questions which we would do well to answer if the next stage is to be broached with greater confidence.

It is a difficult exercise since the decision taking- player States are sovereign. We would invite them to carry out some constructive self-criticism, given that they judge the importance of the suggested diagnosis at its true value, having felt it necessary as far back as 1996 when they explicitly included it in the MCSD's mandate.

II. METHODOLOGICAL APPROACH

The review must at all costs be carried out between 1 February and 31 July 2000 at the latest.

The study will be coordinated by the MAP Secretariat supported by a "Comité de Pilotage" made up of representatives from Tunisia and Greece for the contracting parties, the City of Rome, the EOAEN and the MIO-ECSDE for the other three categories of representatives to the MCSD.

The expected final product will consist of:

- a critical, exhaustive and retrospective review of action undertaken mainly within the MAP framework since 1990, and more particularly since 1995.
- a general inventory of the loopholes and shortcomings which undermine MAP's efficiency.
- a set of relevant recommendations to remedy these shortcomings, to improve efficiency and to strengthen the strategic aspects of their implementation by MAP, the contracting parties and all the partners involved.

Three independent experts will be called upon to do this. Their work will draw on all available documentation and any relevant information liable to be provided by the national correspondents appointed to such effect.

There is no doubt that sustainability can only be guaranteed in the long term in the Mediterranean region if the contracting parties implement the principles for action adopted in Agenda MED 21 within the framework of national voluntarist policies co-ordinated on a contractual basis by MAP.

This presupposes that the governments of the riparian states should regularly be provided with an overall picture of the region's economic and ecological situation, explaining the interactions between human populations, their activities and the natural environments, demanding prospective thinking and steps to encourage development which can "meet the needs of the present without undermining the possibility of satisfying those of generations to come".

Mobilisation towards this clearly defined common objective has meant that since 1995:

- the Barcelona conventional framework and the structures of MAP have had to be updated.
- States have had to weigh up the dangers of non-sustainability.
- civil society has had to be mobilised.

To what extent have incentives and efforts towards co-ordination made at regional level borne fruit?

To what extent have the major political and socio-economic choices at the national level improved the situation?

To what extent has public opinion, through the NGOs, been involved in decision taking?

General Approach

Definition of sustainable development.

Development which is environment- friendly, technically appropriate, economically viable and socially acceptable, meaning that the needs of present generations can be met without undermining the possibility for future generations to satisfy their own.

Where they exist, indicators of sustainable development assess how situations or trends square with the principles of sustainable development, and may reveal the non-sustainability of a given line of development.

When such indicators are not available, referring to the sustainable development process means sticking to the Rio principles which underpin it:

- A moral principle of intra and inter-generational equity:

- To preserve the environment in order to ensure the continuity of human life.

- Political principles:

- of national sovereignty on environmental matters: think globally at regional level but act to foster sustainable development at national if not local level.
- of participation by the population at all levels: role of players in civil society (women and young people in particular).
- of international co-operation on questions of research, development and training: transfer of clean technologies.
- of transparency of information.
- of differentiating the responsibilities between countries to the North and those to the South.

- Methodological integration principles:

- To take account of the environment-development interface and report on environment-economy-society interplay.

When all is said and done, the upstream integration on a preventive basis of environmental concerns in the multi-configuration and multi-player processes of planning and development is the best way of ensuring sustainability.

Encouraging sustainable development in the countries of the Mediterranean region will, for one, involve easing the pressure of human activity on the environment, which could not fail to have a positive effect on society as a whole.

The pressure of human activity will be assessed in terms of:

- development trends since 1995 within the main forms of economic activity, i.e. demography, urbanisation, agriculture, industry, energy, transport and tourism.
- and their negative impact on the main areas of the environment: forests, soil, water, biodiversity, air and the coasts.

The legislative, statutory, fiscal and technical responses applied by the decision-takers and the accompanying measures introduced in order to lessen if not remove any negative effects on sustainability will be assessed using indicators to translate the initiatives taken at political level.

In assessing the effects, however, it should be borne in mind that the time scale of the decision takers (short term) does not always correspond to the ecological time scale (the very long term).

Any assessment of situations or changes in terms of sustainable development will often be of a qualitative nature.

It will also have to take account of the ecological, geographical, social, economic and structural characteristics of the different countries, which consequently mean that they face different problems and are starting from levels of experience which cannot always be compared.

There is no doubt that the analysis of the situation prevailing in the countries, the effectiveness of policy decisions on environmental and development-related issues, and the relevance of technical responses applied to situations and changes which do not square with sustainability are largely dependent on the States' institutional capacity.

It will therefore be necessary to study the extent to which the States have developed since 1995:

- the capacity to draw up policies and strategies for sustainable development.
- the capacity to implement these policies and strategies in terms of ministries, specialised governmental bodies and agencies.
- the capacity to involve the population and local areas through local and regional authorities and the NGOs.

Further assessment could be made of efforts towards:

- better distribution of powers between the central, state level, and the local area (deconcentration and more particularly decentralisation).
- the creation of a supervisory body or national or local agencies responsible for the environment reflecting the new awareness and involvement of the public authorities.
- a supreme body for interministerial co-ordination of environmental management issues.
- increasing the financial and human resources made available to the administrations responsible for the environment.
- drawing up national environment protection programmes which specify the general strategic line, and action plans aimed at integrating environmental concerns within a sustainable form of development.
- planning which clearly explains the actions envisaged, the aims to be achieved, and the deadlines.
- the introduction of legislation which meets the need for controls, and reflects the official will to stop the situation deteriorating any further.
- the adoption of international and regional commitments on environmental issues as a way of encouraging the beefing up of national environmental policies.

Any assessment at the present moment of the administrative and institutional workings of the countries requires wide knowledge of the national situation, the existing institutional set-up, who does what, and what efforts have been made since 1995.

This implies that one national expert per country must be effectively involved in the assessment, who will use a questionnaire still to be drawn up in order to establish the profile of the country, and will collect any useful validated information at the relevant level from the institutional partners.

There is also no doubt that, when all is said and done, sustainability must also be shown in the field in terms of:

- economic efficiency whilst retaining the capital in natural resources.
- environmental integrity.
- social equity.

Should it prove impossible to provide a short term quantitative assessment of situations expected in the long term, the countries' strategic approach to sustainable development could be assessed using the extent to which the principles for action which stem from the aims of sustainable development have been respected or taken on board:

- The polluter pays principle: which involves the external costs of economic activity being borne at internal level.
- The principle of integration which means dynamic interplay between the various parts which make up the environment, and development activity.
- The subsidiarity principle which codifies the relations of inter-dependence between the global and the local level.
- The precautionary principle which advocates prevention and caution.

Finally, the assessment of countries' sustainable development strategies will be based on methods for sounding out and understanding given situations:

- retrospective knowledge (1995) about the situation in the different countries based on selected socio-economic data available from the Blue Plan in particular (initial picture).
- updated knowledge (2000) based on the results of the country questionnaire.
- confirmation (or invalidation) of the development trend when compared with the forecasts from the available prospective scenarios (2000).

The assessment could cover the following six environmental components and sectors of activity:

- soil, water, forests, coasts, sea, atmosphere.
- agro-food production, industry, energy, tourism, transport and sustainable development.

It should also cover the extent to which these areas are polluted by the production of solid, liquid and gaseous waste.

It is highly likely that the general trends will be confirmed (the short time lapse since 1995 or even 1990, the difficulty and slowness with which structures, programmes and capacities are being built up mean that we cannot expect any spectacular results).

Maybe then the bottlenecks and sticking points should be assessed at the appropriate level in terms of the available potential.

Finally, the socio-economic development of the country in the Mediterranean context will be assessed in the light of the economic, political and socio-cultural response to the general external conditions it has had to face.

Environmental development will be assessed using the ecological review of the various areas and natural resources based on relevant environmental indicators, as well as land use policies: protection, preferential activities, banned activities, etc....

Developments in land planning will allow the efficiency of the country's political and administrative system to be assessed (legislative, statutory and institutional system) in the face of pressures exerted by the socio-economic (and even geo-political) system.

Regional Approach

For the Mediterranean region as a whole, there is no longer any doubt about the need for a steering system for the changes coming about as a result of both internal and external factors.

Present day changes mean that several different futures can be forecast.

It is up to the MAP system to help build a strategic approach towards a desirable sustainable development situation.

This will require objective information about the situations prevailing in each country, and the ability to imagine more long term developments so that the priorities for action towards sustainable development can be credibly assessed.

Both the strong and weak points of MAP must therefore be assessed at their true value, in its regional approach aimed at an overall understanding of the Mediterranean system, its follow-up and taking into account of the environmental priorities which will be a determining factor in the socio-economic development and well-being of Mediterranean people.

The effectiveness of its work could be assessed through:

- the exhaustive nature of the information, follow-up and monitoring system which has been introduced in order to characterise the region's environment and development.
- the proposed overall interpretation of the Mediterranean system and its foreseeable futures.
- the credibility of the prospective instruments applied in order to clarify the long term impact of socio-economic development on the environment, and their interest as an instrument for intra-Mediterranean dialogue.
- the relevance of the main problem areas for sustainable development dealt with by its structures, and the feasibility of the aims proposed.
- the ability to initiate and encourage synergy-generating activities which can be transposed into national policies.
- the development of a technical-scientific partnership between the countries in the region, and of Mediterranean know-how in observing and evaluating sustainable development processes.
- the identification and mobilisation of actors in civil society at different levels for awareness raising and training.
- the ability to shape recommendations and proposals for action and to assist governments in decision taking in order to rectify policies and actions undertaken.
- the ability to drum up more interest on the part of the European Union, and international and Mediterranean instances about the region's concerns.
- scientific and technical documentation produced.

- bringing people closer together, and having exchange which can foster consultation and decision taking at the regional level.

III. QUESTIONNAIRE ON INITIATIVES AND ACTIONS TOWARDS THE ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION.

This questionnaire is a guide which asks certain questions pertaining to the progress made by countries towards sustainable development as a result of decisions taken by the competent authorities or the players concerned in the political, legislative, legal, statutory, fiscal or economic field or elsewhere.

It does not concern the state of the environment, but rather environmental and developmental policy.

It is intended first and foremost for the national expert who will be responsible for collecting and validating the relevant information needed to draw up the strategic review.

It is, however, also intended for the civil society as a whole, and particularly for the three main groups which are members of the MCSD (NGOs, local authorities, and socio-economic players), who will answer all those questions related to their activities and spheres of competence.

And finally this questionnaire is intended for the components of MAP (programmes and RACs) as well as the regional partners (METAP, CEDARE, etc.) who should provide answers in the fields which concern them and using the information available to them.

The questions require clear answers and certain details (quantitative wherever possible). Some of them also require further elucidation and comment to shed light on decisions taken or policies applied (5-10 lines max. per question).

References explaining official policy should be indicated.

Categorical yes/no answers are not recommended except to put across a situation which is crystal clear.

The aim is to attempt to assess the environmental performance achieved by the contracting parties and other members of the MCSD at national and local level, with reference to the objectives set and the international commitments entered into in terms of:

- the effectiveness of environmental policies implemented to combat pollution and to conserve nature.
- the integration of environmental concerns in all sectoral policies.
- the effectiveness of co-operation with the Mediterranean and international communities.

Assessing the performance of a country or partner means weighing up the results achieved by the State and actors in civil society in the implementation of environmental policy. In the absence of quantitative objectives set for established deadlines, reference will be made to the declared aims of national policy but also to political decisions, rules laid down at international level which bind countries, and recommendations which are generally accepted by experts.

In principle, any effective environmental policy sets aims which in the long term are likely to protect the country against the stagnation which the irreversible depletion of resources would lead to in the future. Preventive action can ensure the sustainable use of resources whilst at the same time making it possible to avert new forms of pollution. However it means that

economic policies must be revised and there must be tougher regulation, more political will and better management. Despite an indisputable increase in awareness, State efforts have not gone far enough. At the very most the initiatives taken have only succeeded in slowing down the deterioration process.

The causes which underlie this deterioration process are well-known:

- imperfect control of demographic growth
- inappropriate politico-economic choices
- ineffectual administrative and regulatory systems
- insufficient awareness amongst public opinion
- limited political will
- biased understanding of the phenomena which threaten the environment
- poor support in building up institutions and capacity.

The assessment will essentially focus on decisions taken and progress achieved:

- in easing or controlling pressure exerted on resources and the environment
- in integrating environment into development
- in implementing multilateral agreements.

A. Controlling the pressures exerted on the environment and resources.

Information to be collected covers:

1. Pollution of the marine environment.

1.1 Combating pollution from ships.

- Implementation of the MARPOL convention, the Barcelona convention and its protocols?
- Creation of ballast removal points and other installations in ports?
- National measures to ensure the safety of navigation (safety of vessels, navigation conditions, legal provisions on shipping, intervention, combating accidental pollution, damage repair).
- Emergency contingency plan for the local authorities and civil society?

1.2. Combating pollution from offshore oil installations.

- Specific regulations?
- Inventory and monitoring of installations?

2. The pollution of coastal waters.

2.1. Preventing and combating pollution of industrial origin.

- Promoting clean industry: ecolabels?
- Classification of industrial plants?
- Setting waste standards?
- Specific regulation?
- Programme for the elimination of black spots?

2.2 Preventing pollution of urban origin.

- measures towards increasing urban wastewater treatment rates between 1990 and 2000 (in particular the number of treatment plants or the number of inhabitant equivalents).

3. Monitoring the quality of the marine environment.

- coastal waters observation network?
- quality of bathing waters monitoring network?

4. Maritime activities.

- regulation of fisheries, to counter excessive trawling, and to counter poaching in prohibited areas?
- regulation to protect the coastal lagoons used for aquaculture?
- research activities for the protection of the marine environment?

5. Air pollution.

5.1. Monitoring the air.

- Setting up of measuring and alarm networks?

5.2. Combating air pollution.

- creation of standards for waste released into the air?
- plan for reducing polluting industrial emissions?
- controlling pollution from exhaust fumes?
- tax on air pollution?
- energy saving plan?
- development plan for renewable energies?
- development of co-generation?
- priority given to use of natural gas?

6. Continental Waters

6.1. Rational water management.

- does the legislative framework recognise that water is a form of heritage?
- national monitoring network for water resources and their quantitative and qualitative development as a tool for understanding and assisting decision taking?
- decisions taken towards integrated and sustainable management of the resource? (control of tapping off and demand in particular):

institutional reform of the sector
management planning
statutory instruments
economic instruments.

6.2. Water pollution.

- measures for combating water pollution?
Pollution of agricultural origin: control of pesticides and fertilisers

Pollution of industrial origin: application of the polluter pays principle
Pollution of domestic origin: sewage works.

- clean up dues?

7. Soil management and conservation

7.1. Combating erosion.

- measures to preserve land, particularly slopes, needed for the maintenance and development of agricultural, pastoral and forestry activity

7.2. Rehabilitation of deteriorated land.

- programme of conservation work for water and soil?
- action plan to combat desertification?
- measures to combat soil salination?
- measures to combat soil contamination?

8. Management of solid waste.

8.1. Household waste

- institutional initiatives?
- measures to reduce and regulate unofficial tips?
- development plan for organised dumps?
- measures towards selective collection?
- specific measures for hospital waste?

8.2. Reuse of organic waste

- programme for composting and agricultural reuse of compost?
- treatment and reuse of residual sediment?

8.3. Industrial waste

- rational management and treatment of industrial and hazardous waste?
- national action plan?
- specific dumps? Incineration plants?

8.4. Legislative and statutory measures.

- promulgation of a national law on waste?
- drafting of directives and standards?
- measures for preventing or reducing the production and harmfulness of waste?
- measures to promote clean technologies?
- measures for organising the transport of waste?
- measures for the reuse and recycling of waste (paper, cardboard, glass, plastic, metal)?
- waste dues?

9. Forests.

9.1. Land and plant health protection.

- do you have a national inventory of forests?

- do you carry out long term scientific observation and monitoring of the forests?
- measures for sustainable forest management?

9.2. Protection against fires.

- measures towards the surveillance and equipping of forest areas?
- reforestation programme?
- programme for exploitation of agricultural, forest and pastoral areas?
- increasing the logistical means for fighting forest fires?
- measures for raising the awareness of and motivating the public?

10. Biotopes

10.1. Protection of ecosystems.

- institutional initiatives?
- legislative and statutory measures for protecting the wetlands, agricultural land, natural areas of ecological interest?
- do you have a national law on the protection of nature?
- do you have an action plan for long term protection?
- have you drawn up an inventory of natural sites of fauna and flora-related interest?

10.2. Protection of threatened species.

- legal measures for the protection of threatened species?
- practical actions for the surveillance and management of their land, coastal and aquatic habitats?
- operations to reintroduce species which have disappeared
- national botanical conservatories
- specific measures for migrating birds
- stamping out breaches of Cites
- land buying for nature-related ends

11. Controlling town planning

11.1 Instruments for urban control

- do you have a law on land planning?
- .institution of master-plans?
- institution of land use plans?
- institution of impact assessments?
- do you have town policies aimed at sustainable development?
- local Agendas 21?
- promotion of high environmental quality buildings?
- major initiatives by local authorities towards sustainable development, particularly:
 - Plan to extend urban green areas?
 - Action plan in support of public transport?
 - Plan to combat noise?

11.2 Control of coastal development

- measures to protect and manage the coast at legal, legislative and institutional level
- economic instruments for the protection of the tourist environment
- measures towards sustainable tourism.

B. Integrating the environment in development.

Information to be collected covers in particular the environmental impact of economic development and the economic impact of environment policies, as well as measures adopted towards integrating environment policies in the main sectors of activity such as agriculture, energy, transport, tourism etc.

1. At institutional and legislative level

- creation of an environmental code?
- setting up of a body for inter-ministerial co-ordination: National commission for sustainable development?
- adoption of national Agenda 21?
- setting up of a national environment and development observatory or similar function?

2. At governmental planning level

- have environmental concerns been integrated into the country's economic and social development plans, and approved by parliament?
- have the principles of sustainable development been reflected in the national plan for land planning?
- do sectoral master-plans embody the new lines being advocated?
- does public administration set the example in terms of means of production and particularly consumption (saving water, energy, etc.)?
- what measures are taken to compensate environmental spending by job creation (eco-industry), or by improving competitiveness (new technologies, new outlets)?
- legislative and statutory progress?

3. At implementing level

3.1 Statutory instruments used

- does administrative authorisation include environmental protection orders?
- do checks on listed plants include the preventive approach amongst their provisions?
- is the impact assessment compulsory?
- does the application of rules cover all players (companies, town councils, state controlled plants)?
- do sites presenting a technological risk have specific contingency plans?
- is there any penalty for non-respect of the environment? Particularly:

Breach of rules on combating pollution

Breach of rules on plants listed as dangerous

Breach of town planning rules

Breach of rules on hunting and fishing

- Is inspection ad hoc or regular? Is it prompted by the department in charge or by some external body?

3.2. Economic instruments used

- taxes and fees: are they pitched at a level allowing vital environmental protection programmes to be financed? Water pollution, removal of household waste, special industrial waste, air pollution, treatment of waste oil.
- environmentally friendly subsidies and tax incentives (depollution funds)

- withdrawal or reduction of subsidies to economic sectors which impair the state of the environment?
- civil liability insurance system for accidental pollution covering clean-up costs?

3.3 Private sector initiatives

- voluntary agreements between the public authorities and certain sectors of industry to meet environmental objectives?
- eco-labelling and green plans for major firms?
- promotion of delegated management?
- sponsorship of initiatives in support of the environment and sustainable development?

3.4 Bilateral co-operation initiatives

- emitter or beneficiary? (often via national co-operation agencies)
- main partners?
- importance and impact of this type of co-operation?

3.5 Initiatives towards the public

- Measures for promoting information about the environment
- Measures to involve the public in the decision-taking process, particularly environmental management, urban management, etc.
- Measures to promote the association system and co-operation with the associations?
- Measures towards participation in networks?
- What specific measures?

3.6 Promoting the role of environmental research

- institutional capacity building?
- management of major priority programmes?
- setting up of environmental data bases?
- development of eco-technologies?

3.7 Increasing environmental education

- opening primary and secondary education up to environmental problems?
- development of environmental training courses in universities?
- exchange between universities and participation in sustainable development programmes in the Mediterranean region?

3.8 Continuous training

- setting up of host structures and structures for environmental training. Information training courses, teaching workshops, technological transfer, networks?
- promotion of environment-related occupations?
- capacity building in the environmental services of the local authorities?

3.9 Awareness raising

- celebration of environment days?
- environmental clean-up campaigns?
- support and encouragement for the NGOs?
- media access for environmental players?
- promotion of environmental films?
- other actions?

C. Implementation of multilateral agreements and regional initiatives.

The information to be collected concerns:

1. At Mediterranean level:

- ratification of the Barcelona convention and its protocols?
- application and implementation of the provisions contained in the Barcelona Convention and each of its protocols?
- taking account and implementation of MAP recommendations adopted by the Contracting Parties, in particular regarding:
 - preparation, follow-up and implementation of legal instruments;
 - information, participation and co-operation;
 - pollution prevention and control;
 - conservation of bio-diversity;
 - sustainable management of coastal areas;
 - integration of environment and development
- taking account and implementation of MCSD recommendations adopted by the Contracting Parties, particularly regarding:
 - water demand management;
 - sustainable management of coastal areas;
 - indicators for sustainable development;
 - tourism;
 - information and awareness raising;
 - comments on current themes;
 - comments on working method.
- taking account and implementation of the recommendations of Agenda Med 21?

2. At Euro-Mediterranean and regional level:

Scale and development of co-operation and its impact on the environment and sustainable development in the Mediterranean?

- with the European Community (EC, EU)
 - Barcelona declaration and process (MEDA, SMAP, etc.)
 - Environmental action programmes
 - Renewed Mediterranean policy
 - LIFE programme and other assistance programmes
 - PHARE programme
- with other regional programmes and bodies (highlighting points of complementarity and overlap, if necessary)
 - METAP
 - CEDARE
 - others

3. At world level

- ratification and implementation of international legal instruments affecting sustainable development. Scale and development in the Mediterranean.

International convention on climate change
 Kyoto Protocol
 Bale Convention on the control of transboundary movements of
 hazardous waste and their disposal
 Convention for the protection of the ozone layer
 Montreal Protocol
 Convention on biodiversity
 Convention on desertification

- co-operation with the United Nations agencies? Contribution to the protection of the environment and sustainable development in the Mediterranean region?

FAO: ME DRAP aquaculture project? Sylvia Mediterrania?

CGFM

UNESCO: MAB project?

UNDP: capacity 21?

Others

- intervention of international and regional financial institutions and their contribution to sustainable development projects (World Bank, EIB, FADES, FKDEA, BisD, BAD, others)
- taking account of the recommendations from major international conferences (human settlements, women, poverty). Impact for the Mediterranean.

IV. TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR DRAWING UP A “STRATEGIC REVIEW FOR THE YEAR 2000”.

1. INTRODUCTION

After the Rio Conference, the community of contracting parties to the Barcelona Convention and its protocols extended its concerns about environmental protection to the land, and adopted the notion of sustainable development which underlies Agenda 21.

It drew up an Agenda MED 21 by giving a Mediterranean slant to Agenda 21, highlighting the priorities in the region and identifying partners and tools for its implementation.

It revised, updated and refocused MAP activities so that the challenges posed by sustainable development and the irreversible nature of effects on the environment and resources could be better taken into account.

It provided MAP with a Mediterranean Commission for Sustainable Development as an advisory body.

Since 1995 through the Coordinating Unit and the structures of MAP it has undertaken certain new activities related to important questions of both a socio-economic and environmental nature, and has developed multilateral cooperation in order to stir up impetus towards sustainable development in the countries of the region.

Now it intends to draw up an exhaustive assessment of the past ten, and more particularly five years of activity in order to identify the weak points in the system and to assess the scope of what has been done by all the partners involved (decision by the 11th ordinary meeting of contracting parties held in Malta in October 1999).

2. THE STUDY'S GENERAL APPROACH

The requested study, the terms of reference of which are dealt with in this document, slots into the general context of the Barcelona Convention for the protection of the Mediterranean sea against pollution and its protocols, the Mediterranean Action Plan and the Mediterranean Commission for Sustainable Development. It squares entirely with the relevant resolution adopted by the 11th meeting of the contracting parties to the Barcelona Convention which talks of undertaking a strategic review of the implementation of the principles of the Agenda MED 21 programme.

It aims at providing MAP and the contracting parties with a realistic appraisal of progress achieved towards sustainable development in terms of political commitment at various levels, administrative decisions and their implementation.

The general aim of the study is to put an exhaustive list of questions arising to the 6th meeting of the MCSD to be held in Tunis in November 2000 so that new impetus can be given to work in common.

Bearing this general objective in mind the study aims to:

- a) Analyse and assess the programmes undertaken by MAP and all its structures since 1990, and particularly since 1995.
- b) Analyse and assess the work undertaken by MAP's partners to support these programmes.
- c) Analyse and assess the initiatives taken by the contracting parties in the context of the UNCED, the Barcelona Convention, MAP and the MCSD.
- d) Assess the performance of policies implemented to promote sustainable development.
- e) Draw up a list of the flaws and weaknesses, which hamper this encouragement.
- f) Produce recommendations and proposals for action likely to increase implementation of decisions adopted.

3. CARRYING OUT THE STUDY

The study shall be coordinated by a team of three experts representing the "North", the "South", and MAP respectively, to be advised on an ad hoc basis by qualified experts.

An "authorised" national expert for each of the countries involved shall be responsible for collecting the available information, carrying out the necessary consultation, analysing any ad hoc documentation and summarising the answers to the proposed questionnaires. The national report shall be validated by each contracting party. For each of the other members of the MCSD an expert shall carry out similar work, for the sections relevant to them.

An independent expert shall be responsible for assessing the work of the civil society (particularly the NGOs, local authorities and socio-economic players), whilst another expert will look at the work undertaken by the Mediterranean organizations and their scope.

Finally, a third expert shall analyse how the Barcelona system works in order to identify any weak points which undermine its effectiveness. He/she shall also assess the relative importance and impact of the partnerships established.

A "Comité de Pilotage" made up of the MAP Secretariat plus representatives from Greece, Monaco, Tunisia, the city of Rome, the EOAEN and the MIO-ECSDE shall supervise the study's progress which shall respect the following timetable:

- 21 January 2000: approval of the terms of reference for the study by the MCSD's Steering Committee
- February 2000: launch of the study
- March: update and review meeting for the coordinating team and concerned consultants.
- 30 April: submission of reports by the national experts and the other three regional experts.
- 11 May: meeting of the "Comite de Pilotage" for the preparation of the strategic review.
- 22-23 June: meeting of the steering committee
- late June 2000 (at the latest late July 2000): submission of a major document for comment by the Contracting Parties, the members of the MCSD and other concerned parties.
- Mid-September 2000: meeting of the coordinating team and the "Comité de Pilotage" to complete the report.
- 30 September: final work-over of the document by the MAP Secretariat.
- 15 October 2000: final document, in 2 languages.

4. SERVICES TO BE PROVIDED BY THE EXPERTS, AND OBLIGATIONS

1. The two experts in charge for the preparation of the overall report under the coordination and in close cooperation with the Secretariat, shall be responsible for summarising the salient points of the questionnaires and the national reports, the report on "civil society" (particularly the NGOs, local authorities and socio-economic players), the report on "regional cooperation" and the report on MAP system, together with the drafting of the Strategic Review report:

- This report of around one hundred pages shall reflect the headway made by countries but also the flaws and shortcomings of policies implemented, and should make it possible to assess the initiatives and actions taken by the countries and other partners towards environmental protection and sustainable development, as well as the effectiveness of both the Barcelona system, the work of the civil society, and regional co-operation.
- The experts in the coordinating team shall draw up recommendations deemed appropriate to rectify any flaws revealed, as well as the proposals for action felt useful in order to increase the effectiveness of policies and to strengthen the strategic aspects of their implementation by MAP, the contracting parties, and all the partners involved.
- At the request of the Secretariat and as necessary, they will participate to planned and ad hoc working sessions.
- They shall pool their analyses and harmonise their approach during several meetings (March, May, June, September) in order to finalise a coherent strategic approach to implementation, and to co-ordinate/finalise the preparation of the Review.
- In mid May and mid September they shall organise a meeting with the strategic review "Comité de Pilotage" in order to validate the conclusions of the study and the suggested approach.
- To carry out this study the experts in the coordinating group shall be able to draw on the opinion and support of MAP and the official representatives of the contracting parties.
- Besides the final report, the reports by the national experts and those covering the workings of the Barcelona system, the work done by civil society and the Mediterranean regional organisations shall also be submitted.

Even though the overall report will be under their joint responsibility, the following respective tasks have been identified, keeping in mind that there will be a regular communication and interactive exchange on respective progress and achievements; the chapters referred to hereunder are those of the draft table of contents that is still subject to changes.

One Expert:

- a. prepare brief guidelines for national reports in order to pave the way for a better comparative analysis, highlighting major stakes, decisions, actions, constraints, gaps and needs. (25 March 2000);
- b. stimulate analysis of the questionnaires in order to identify the useful flexible frameworks and matrixes so as to quickly draw out the relevant necessary information for the Strategic Review (mid-April 2000);
- c. analyse and synthesise the questionnaires (end of May 2000);
- d. prepare first draft (about 50 pages), for chapter III (around 10 June);
- e. review and contribute to other chapters of the Strategic Review;
- f. prepare chapters IV, V and VI, jointly with other members of the Coordinating and Drafting Team, with the assistance as appropriate of ad hoc experts (second half of June 2000);
- g. contribute to the review of the draft report taking into account comments from members and partners (mid-September 2000) and then to finalisation of the report in December 2000 after the 6th MCSD meeting.

Other Expert:

- a. responsible for the overall drafting of the report, first (end June), reviewed draft (mid-September) and final (December 2000);
 - b. prepare directly the introduction and chapter I (5-7 pages) (end March 2000);
 - c. prepare chapter II (about 20 pages), with the assistance of MAP components, mainly BP/RAC (end April 2000);
 - d. review chapter III to be prepared by other expert, and integrate it in the report with a common drafting style (about 50 pages) (mid-June 2000);
 - e. analyse and synthesise the 3 regional studies and integrate relevant information in the Strategic Review";
 - f. prepare chapter IV, V and VI (about 10 pages each), jointly with the other members of the Coordinating and Drafting Team, with the assistance as appropriate of ad hoc experts. (second half of June 2000).
2. The **national experts** participating in the study or those representing the partners shall be fully conversant with the environmental policy of their respective country, or the organization in question, shall have been approved by the contracting party or the partner concerned and shall be able to count on the full support of the department responsible for environmental matters in the latter.
- They shall be responsible for analysing the relevant national documentation relating to the implementation of decisions taken, recommendations made, principles for action established at world, Mediterranean, national or local level since 1990 and the UNCED in 1992 in general terms, and more specifically since 1995.
 - For the purposes of the study they shall provide the most objective answers to the questionnaire made available to them and may complement them by any relevant additional information which sheds light on the environmental policy implemented, or justifies the development strategy applied.
 - By 30 April at the latest they shall submit the questionnaire plus an authorised national report (or by the partner) of around ten pages which shall run through the political, legal and legislative, institutional, economic and technical facets of sustainable development in the country (or in the institution in question for the other MCSD members), and shall mention the specific national aspects of the decision-taking process in this field.

3. The regional expert responsible for analysing the workings of the **Barcelona system** shall be fully conversant with the development, working methods, and programmes of MAP and its structures:
 - He/she shall take a critical and objective look at the strengths and weaknesses of each component making up the system (CP, MAP, MEDU, MEDPOL, RACs, Partners, Observers, etc.) giving due consideration to the development of MAP objectives from the protection of the marine environment towards sustainable development in the Mediterranean Region (Agenda MED 21, MAP II, MCS D).
 - He/she shall assess the nature and importance of the support and the direct or indirect assistance tracked down or obtained by MAP from its Euro-Mediterranean region and international partners since 1990, and particularly since 1995, with reference to the various declarations and political commitments made by the political, economic or financial bodies concerned: EU/EC/MEDA/SMAP/LIFE/ etc. METAP, CEDARE, FAO, UNDP, WORLD BANK and others concerned UN Agencies and international/regional organisations.
 - He/she shall propose a set of recommendations likely to improve the work of MAP and its structures in terms of political impetus for the contracting parties and proposals for strategic action towards sustainable development for the public decision-takers and economic operators.
 - He/she shall have the total backing of MAP through its coordinating unit and regional activity centres as well as through the MCS D's steering committee.
 - At the request of MAP he/she shall take part in some working groups, if necessary.
 - He/she shall submit a report of 30 pages, at least (not including annexes on method of work, persons met, documents used, documents attached, etc. as applicable) summarising the results of analysis, his/her investigations and proposals.
 - An outline of the report will be provided by mid-April 2000 and the final report should be submitted by 26 May 2000, latest; this deadline should be respected as the content of the report will be integrated in the overall strategic review to be presented a couple of weeks later to the Steering Committee.

4. The regional expert responsible for examining input from **civil society (particularly NGOs, local authorities and socio-economic actors)** shall be conversant with the activities and initiatives of civil society on a regional scale:
 - He/she shall assess in particular the contribution made to the promotion of sustainable development by the Mediterranean networks and associations representative of the actors in civil society in its various facets, picking out the high points of the initiatives, measures and actions undertaken since 1990 and since 1995 in particular, those areas where this work has been particularly effective and ways in which the dynamism and motivation of the associations could help speed up the decision-taking process.
 - He/she shall pay particular attention to the NGOs, professional organizations and local authorities which enjoy privileged relations with MAP and take part in its activities, notably through major networks and some individual institutions such as MED Forum and MIO-ECSDE, WBCSD, ASCAME and other Chambers of Commerce, United Towns, Medcities and Local Agenda 21 respectively.
 - He/she shall provide an initial assessment of the involvement of these representatives of civil society in the MCS D's activities.
 - In above assessments, he/she will identify strengths and weaknesses, constraints and gaps related to the promotion and building up of sustainable development in the Mediterranean Region.
 - He/she will also identify a set of recommendations and proposals for action for more active, interactive, dynamic and ambitious participation by civil society in the promotion of

sustainable development in general, and in relation with the MAP system (Contracting Parties, MAP and components).

- Any additional relevant information of interest for the Strategic Review will be highly appreciated.
 - If needs be at the request of MAP he/she shall participate in the meetings foreseen.
 - He/she shall draw up a report of at least thirty pages not including annexes (method of work, persons met, documents used, documents attached, as applicable) setting out the key ways in which they can better help mobilize Mediterranean public opinion on MAP's themes and watchwords for achieving sustainable development.
 - Considering the expansion of data availability through Internet, the consultant is encouraged to look for necessary information on the Web, as most of the actors of the civil society have Web sites.
 - An outline of the report will be provided by the end of March and the final report should be submitted by 28 April latest, deadline to be respected as the Steering Committee of Strategic Review will meet on 10 May 2000.
5. The independent regional expert responsible for examining **regional co-operation** and input from the Mediterranean organisations shall be abreast of activities and initiatives in which the regional and international actors are involved throughout the region:
- He/she shall assess in particular the importance, structure and contribution made by regional co-operation to the protection of the environment and the promotion of sustainable development in the Mediterranean, highlighting the highpoints of the initiatives, measures and actions accomplished since 1990 and since 1995 in particular, areas where this action has been particularly effective, and ways in which the dynamism of regional co-operation could help strengthen and speed up the decision making process and the promotion of sustainable development;
 - He/she shall pay particular attention to the organisations and programmes which enjoy privileged relations with MAP and which take part in its activities, particularly METAP, CEDARE, the EC (no longer as a Contracting Party);
 - He/she shall take a critical and objective look at the strengths and weaknesses of each individual component of the regional system with the aim of
 - revealing the shortcomings and constraints which affect their efficiency
 - reducing duplication
 - creating greater complementarity between activity programmes
 - encouraging greater synergy between regional partners.
 - He/she shall make an initial assessment of co-operation between these institutions and MAP, and their contribution to sustainable development in the region;
 - He/she shall provide an initial assessment of the involvement of these regional institutions in the MCSD's activities.
 - In above assessments, he/she will identify strengths and weaknesses, constraints and gaps related to the promotion and building up of sustainable development in the Mediterranean Region.
 - He/she will also identify a set of recommendations and proposals for action for more active, interactive, dynamic and ambitious participation by regional and international actors in the promotion of sustainable development in general, and in relation with the MAP system (Contracting Parties, MAP and components).
 - Any additional relevant information of interest for the Strategic Review will be highly appreciated.
 - He/she shall participate if needs be and at the request of MAP in the planned meetings;
 - He/she shall draw up a report of thirty pages at least, not including annexes (method of work, persons met, documents used, documents attached, as applicable), summarizing the results of his/her analyses, indicating the strengths and weaknesses of regional co-

operation in the Mediterranean, and pointing out ways to improve and strengthen regional co-operation towards sustainable development in the Mediterranean.

- Considering the expansion of data availability through Internet, the consultant is encouraged to look for necessary information on the Web, as most of the actors of the civil society have Web sites.
- As this regional study will be jointly undertaken by two experts, a close and dynamic cooperation is necessary between them. Broadly, and in order to avoid unnecessary overlapping, the following could be considered:
 - analysis related to EU and UN Institutions (notably UNDP/CAP.21, FAO WHO, WORLD BANK etc. but excluding METAP) will be undertaken by one of them;
 - analysis related to METAP, CEDARE, ARAB LEAGUE and other relevant Arab, African, Asian institutions will be covered by the second expert;
- An outline of the report will be provided by the end of March and the final report should be submitted by 28 April latest, deadline to be respected as the Steering Committee of Strategic Review will meet on 10 May 2000.

V. DRAFT TABLE OF CONTENTS OF THE REPORT

Introduction:

- The reasons for the review.

- 1995+5
- to test the effectiveness of the revised Mediterranean structures
- to assess the degree of motivation amongst States and civil society.

- Birth of the project, remit and deadlines.

I. **Reminder of the objectives of the review and the methodological approach**

- General objectives.

- to brush up the image of the Mediterranean as an eco-region which wants to harness the active forces within civil society to promote sustainable development.
- to "Mediterraneanise" the question of sustainable development.
- to increase the clout of the Mediterranean within UNEP's regional seas programme and vis a vis the UN-CSD.
- to have a realistic inventory of the situation at different levels in order to facilitate reflection and assist in decision taking.
- to provide the necessary political impetus to launch the structures anew.

- Specific objectives.

- to highlight the weaknesses and constraints which affect the Mediterranean system.
- (particularly MAP).
- to show the progress and success which has been achieved at both national and local level.
- to assess the support provided by the Mediterranean partners.
- to propose relevant programmes of action in a sustainable development perspective.

- Methodological approach

- study group structure.
- work organisation and planning.
- partners affected by the objective assessment.
- mobilisation of governmental institutions.
- validation of national information.
- listing of sources.

II. Development stakes in the Mediterranean.

- Brief reminder of the Mediterranean context.

- The Mediterranean: the nerve centre of an eco-region
- particular geographical, climatic and demographic context.
- fragile state of natural resources.
- essential development characteristics.
- contrast between the Northern and Southern rims.
- significant figures.

- Vital issues in the region.

- at socio-economic level.
 - Demographic pressure
 - Energy-consuming industry
 - Demand for agricultural water
 - Rise of tourism and open air leisure activities
 - Rapid urbanisation
 - The development of transport (including maritime and urban).
 - Education to be spread across the board.
- at environmental level
 - shrinking forest cover
 - soil deterioration
 - pressure on water resources
 - loss of biodiversity and live resources.
 - air pollution
 - uncontrolled "littoralisation"
 - deterioration of the marine environment
 - encroaching salination
 - increase in solid domestic and industrial waste.
 - effects of foreseeable climatic change

III. Sustainable development for the Mediterranean.

- The instruments

- a negotiated conventional framework
- a structured Mediterranean Action Programme
- a Mediterranean Agenda 21
- updated regional priorities
- a representative structure for reflection
- responsible contracting parties.
- partners who are involved.

- MAP activities since 1990, and particularly since 1995.

- actions undertaken by MAP structures related to the established priorities:
 - integrating environment and development
 - integrated management of natural resources
 - integrated management of coastal areas
 - waste management
 - agriculture
 - industry and energy
 - transport
 - tourism
 - urban development and the environment
 - information
 - assessment and control of marine pollution
 - conservation of nature, landscapes and sites.
- MAP actions related to the drawing up and revision of the texts of the protocols to the Barcelona convention and the impact of these texts on country behaviour.
- MCSD actions and the review of activities undertaken since 1996 on the 8 priority themes selected, in terms of strategic recommendations and proposals for action to the contracting parties:
 - water demand management
 - sustainable management of coastal areas
 - indicators of sustainable development
 - tourism
 - information, awareness raising, environmental education and participation
 - free trade and the environment
 - industry
 - urban development

- Support activities by the Mediterranean partners.

- METAP actions
- Euro-Mediterranean actions
- Actions by instances of the United Nations' system
- CEDARE's actions
- Actions by the Mediterranean NGOs.

- The activities of the contracting parties:

- Legal and statutory measures:
 - setting up of institutions responsible for matters related to the environment
 - setting up of national commissions for sustainable development
 - ratification of the Barcelona convention and its protocols
 - ratification of the relevant world conventions
 - promulgation of legal instruments for environmental protection.
- Measures towards sustainable development:
 - national sustainable development strategy

national Agenda 21
national environment action plan
environmental education
natural resource management
combating desertification
combating pollution
mobilising civil society

- Implementation of Mediterranean programmes:

taking account of the principles of Agenda Med 21
support for MAP II's priority actions
participation in MCSD activities
taking account of the MCSD's recommendations and proposals for action
preparation and implementation of local Agendas 21
NGO activities in a sustainable development perspective

- The activities of the players in civil society:

local authorities,
socio-economic bodies,
private sector
NGOs.

IV. Performance of the policies applied.

- Respecting the principles of sustainable development
- Evaluation:

- in terms of economic efficiency whilst retaining the natural capital.
- in terms of environmental integrity.
- in terms of social equity.

V. Shortcomings and loopholes in present policies.

- At MAP level
- At the level of MAP's partners
- At contracting party level

VI. Recommendations and proposals for action.

(to be endorsed by the MCSD)

- for renewed political impetus towards sustainable development
- for more consistent monitoring of the state of the environment
- for more effective synergy between regional and national partners
- for more effective implementation of MAP recommendations
- for genuine integration of the environment and development
- for the respect of Agenda MED 21's principles for action.
- for more specific cross-border co-operation.
- for more ambitious participation by civil society.
- for a North-South partnership based on greater solidarity.

ANNEX III
Sixth Meeting of the MCSD , 20-23 November 2000, Tunis
Draft Provisional Agenda

	20 November	21 November	22 November	23 November
09.00-11.00h	<u>Plenary:</u> <Opening <Adoption of the agenda <Strategic review and general discussion	<u>Break Out Working Sessions:</u> (cont.)	<u>Break Out Working Sessions (3) :</u> <Free Trade; <Industry; <Urban Development.	<u>Plenary:</u> < Implementation and follow up of MCSD recommendations
11.00-11.30h	Coffee Break			
11.30-13.00h	<u>Plenary:</u> <Ministerial Segment on Sustainable Development in the Mediterranean, vision for the region and role of MAP/MCSD.	<u>Break Out Working Sessions:</u> (cont. and end)	<u>Break Out Working Sessions (3):</u> < Feasibility for New Themes.	<u>Free</u> (preparation of the report by the Secretariat)
13.00-14.30h	Lunch Break			
14.30-16.30h	<u>Plenary:</u> <Cont. Ministerial Segment with presentations and discussions.	<u>Plenary:</u> <Results of the discussions by the Break Out Working Sessions.	<u>Plenary:</u> <Proposals from Thematic Working Groups	<u>16.00h</u> Adoption of conclusions and set of decisions.
16.30-17.00h	Coffee Break			
17.00-18.30h	<u>Break Out Working Sessions (3) :</u> <Integration of Environment, Economy and Development; <Performance of national policies and actions; < Regional Cooperation;	<u>Plenary:</u> < Review of proposed recommendations and actions for a framework Strategy on Sustainable Development in the Mediterranean.	<u>Plenary:</u> <Pre-feasibility Studies for New Themes: Selection and prioritisation	