



UNITED
NATIONS

EP

UNEP(DEPI)/MED BUR.82/6



UNITED NATIONS
ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME
MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN

18 March 2016
Original: English

82nd Meeting of the Bureau of the Contracting Parties to the
Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment
and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean and its Protocols

Athens, Greece, 19-20 April 2016

Agenda Item 5: Specific Issues

Report by the Secretariat on specific issues

For environmental and cost-saving reasons, this document is printed in a limited number. Delegates are kindly requested to bring their copies to meetings and not to request additional copies.

UNEP/MAP
Athens, 2016

Table of contents

	Page
A. Governance and Organizational Matters.....	2
1 <i>Status of Ratification of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols.....</i>	2
2 <i>Development of Host Country Agreements for RACs.....</i>	3
3 <i>Revision of the TOR of the Bureau.....</i>	3
4 <i>Shift to Thematic Focal Points.....</i>	4
5 <i>Reporting and Compliance.....</i>	5
B. Review of MAP II.....	6
C. Cooperation and Partners.....	7
D. Outreach, Information and Communication.....	8
E. Istanbul Environment Friendly Cities Award.....	9
F. Planning for the Implementation of the POW 2016-2017.....	9
Annexes	
Annex I - MAP Partner Applications Evaluation Table.....	11

A. Governance and Organizational Matters

1. Status of Ratification of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols

1. Based on the latest communication by Spain as Depositary Country, the current status of ratifications is described in Tables 1 and 2 below.

Table 1: Summary of Status of Ratification

20 Contracting Parties have accepted the amendments to the Convention, 1995;
15 Contracting Parties have accepted the amendments to the Dumping Protocol, 1995;
17 Contracting Parties have accepted the amendments to the LBS Protocol, 1996;
7 Contracting Parties have ratified the Offshore Protocol, 1994;
18 Contracting Parties have ratified the SPA and Biodiversity Protocol, 1995;
7 Contracting Parties have ratified the Hazardous Waste Protocol, 1996;
14 Contracting Parties have ratified the new Prevention and Emergency Protocol, 2002;
10 Contracting Parties have ratified ICZM Protocol, 2008.

Table 2: Ratification of Barcelona Convention and Protocols by individual Contracting Parties

Contracting Parties Legal instruments	Albania	Algeria	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Croatia	Cyprus	European Union	Egypt	France	Greece	Israel	Italy	Lebanon	Libya	Malta	Monaco	Montenegro	Morocco	Slovenia	Spain	Syria	Tunisia	Turkey	
	Barcelona Convention																						
and Amendments																							
Dumping Protocol																							
and Amendments																							
Emergency Protocol																							
Prevention and Emergency Protocol																							
LBS Protocol																							
and Amendments																							
SPA Protocol																							
SPA and Biodiversity Protocol																							
Offshore Protocol																							
Hazardous Wastes Protocol																							
ICZM Protocol																							

2. Since the last meeting of the Bureau, the Depositary has communicated to the Secretariat the deposit of the instrument of ratification of the ICZM Protocol by Israel, dated 1 February 2016. In accordance with Article 33 of the Barcelona Convention, the ICZM Protocol entered into force for Israel on 2 March 2016.

3. The Secretariat continued its efforts to achieve universal ratification of the amended Convention. Discussions continued before and at COP 19 with the two countries whose ratification has not yet been received (Bosnia and Herzegovina and Lebanon). The latter informed the Secretariat that a letter was being sent to the Depositary to rectify the mistake made when communicating the ratification of the amended text of the Convention. Follow-up will continue with Bosnia and Herzegovina in order to achieve the universal ratification of the

amended Convention before the 20th Meeting of the Contracting Parties (COP 20, December 2017).

4. It is also brought to the attention of the Bureau that the Dumping Protocol still requires one additional ratification in order to enter into force. The support of the Bureau to facilitate the ratification of the Dumping Protocol in particular and of all other Protocols by the remaining Contracting Parties would be highly desirable.

5. The Secretariat will continue using all possible opportunities to widen the level of ratification of the Barcelona Convention instruments. Preliminary discussions have already been held by the Coordinator with the President of the Bureau to explore possibilities of their joint work on this subject.

6. Proposed Recommendations:

(a) The Bureau takes note of the current status of ratification of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols and urges the Contracting Parties which have not yet done so to ratify without further delay the relevant legal instruments.

(b) The Bureau encourages the President and the Secretariat to put in place efforts to achieve the full ratification in a timely manner preferably during the current biennium.

2. Development of Host Country Agreements for RACs

7. With Decision IG.20/13, entitled “Governance”, COP 17 (Paris, France, February 2012) decided to “urge countries hosting MAP Regional Activity Centers to finalize the new Host Country Agreements as soon as possible, in accordance with the draft prepared and submitted to them by the Secretariat and attached as Annex I to this decision, taking into account domestic laws, regulations and practices, while respecting the common interest of all parties in better coherence and coordination and in the financial implications for the MTF”. This call was repeated in Decision IG.21/13 of COP 18 (Istanbul, Turkey, December 2013) entitled “Governance”.

8. Since COP 17, the Secretariat has undertaken negotiations with the Parties hosting RACs in order to comply with these requirements. Such work has given uneven results. The revised Host Country Agreements are still in very different stages of preparation, and it has proven difficult to achieve the harmonization of the texts of all these Agreements.

9. The Secretariat will prepare a report for the second meeting of the Bureau in the current biennium on this subject in order to obtain the Bureau’s recommendation on the way forward.

10. Proposed Recommendations:

The Bureau takes note of the current status of development of the Host Country Agreements for RACs as reported by the Secretariat and encourages the Secretariat to continue its work with the concerned Contracting Parties and UNEP Headquarters and submit a report to its 83rd Meeting describing the status of negotiation for each Agreement including the challenges met.

3. Revision of the TOR of the Bureau

11. With Decision IG.22/15 of COP 19 (Athens, Greece, February 2016) entitled “Compliance Mechanisms and Procedures, Membership and Working Programme of the Compliance Committee for the Biennium 2016-2017”, the Parties adopted “the Recommendations of the Compliance Committee, as contained in Annex II to this Decision, addressing the implementation of Decision IG. 21/1, facilitation of Reporting and functioning of the Compliance Committee”. The Compliance Committee had recommended “to amend Article II, para. 3 of the Terms of Reference of the Bureau of the Contracting Parties, adding a compliance criteria in electing the members of the Bureau; in particular, adding after the words:

“and regular attendance at the meeting of the contracting Parties” the following words: “and compliance with their reporting obligations under the Convention”.

12. In order to implement the above-mentioned decision, the Secretariat will prepare the amended text of the TOR and submit it to the 83rd Meeting of Bureau for review and further submission to COP 20 in November 2017.

13. Proposed Recommendations:

The Bureau agrees with the proposed course of action and that the Secretariat will prepare the amended text of the TOR and submit it to the 83rd Meeting of Bureau for review and further submission to COP 20 in December 2017.

4. Shift to Thematic Focal Points

14. With Decision IG.21/13 of COP 18 (Istanbul, Turkey, December 2013) entitled “Governance”, the Parties decided to “adopt the measures to strengthen the Barcelona Convention/MAP Governance and Management”. On this subject, the measures include the following text: “The current MAP Components Focal Points system will be refocused into Thematic Focal Points so as to promote an integrated and coherent approach in the implementation of the Convention, its Protocols and the Programme of Work, generate system-wide interest and optimize costs while avoiding fragmentation” and “The Secretariat with the support of the Bureau will prepare more concrete proposals for next biennium”.

15. Decision IG.22/1 of COP 19 (Athens, Greece, February 2016) entitled “UNEP/MAP Mid-Term Strategy 2016-2021” defines the following key output of the MTS: “1.1.3 Strengthen interlinkages between Core and Cross-cutting themes and facilitate Coordination at national level across the relevant sectors. In this context, examine the impacts of a transition to Thematic Focal Points within UNEP/MAP system for consideration at the COP 20.”

16. In order to comply with the above-mentioned decisions, the Secretariat will initiate, in consultation with the MAP Components, a preliminary review of the issues related to this matter and report to the Bureau at its 83rd Meeting in order to obtain the Bureau’s recommendation on the way forward.

17. In preparing its review, the Secretariat aims at undertaking a SWOT analysis of the current Component Focal Point system and of the new Thematic Focal Point one. It will take into account potential impacts of such a transition including legal, institutional and sustainability aspects, keeping in mind that the main role of the Component Focal Points is the coordination at national level of the implementation of the Protocols as indicated in some Protocols. It will also review existing arrangements in other similar Conventions.

18. The Component Focal Point system is regulated through: (i) provisions of individual Protocols; (ii) MAP Phase II, section III.1 “Institutional Arrangements”; and (iii) decision IG.17/5 “Governance Paper”.

19. The Bureau is invited to provide preliminary guidance and comments on this matter.

20. Proposed Recommendations:

The Bureau requests the Secretariat to prepare a preliminary analysis of the current status and the options for a shift to a Thematic Focal Point system and submit it for further discussion and guidance at its 83rd Meeting.

5. Reporting and Compliance

Reporting on Implementation of Barcelona Convention and its Protocols (Biennia 2010-2011 and 2012-2013)

21. As of 29 February 2016, 15 Contracting Parties (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Cyprus, European Union, France, Greece, Israel, Italy, Lebanon, Malta, Montenegro, Morocco, Slovenia and Turkey) have submitted reports on measures taken to implement the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols pursuant to Article 26 of the Barcelona Convention, for the 2012-2013 biennium.

22. The Secretariat will follow up with the remaining Contracting Parties (Algeria, Egypt, Libya, Monaco, Spain, Syria and Tunisia) for them to meet their obligations as soon as possible.

Implementation of Decision IG.22/16 entitled "Reporting on the Implementation of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols; and Operational Section of the Reporting Format for the Protocol on the Integrated Coastal Zone Management in the Mediterranean"

23. COP 19 urged the Contracting Parties to officially submit their 2014-2015 reports to the Secretariat in October 2016 at the latest, regarding the measures taken to implement the Convention and its Protocols by using the online reporting format.

24. It also adopted the operational reporting format for the ICZM Protocol, thus completing the reporting formats covering all legal instruments of MAP, i.e. the Barcelona Convention and its seven Protocols.

25. Following Decision IG.22/16, the Contracting Parties should submit their reports by October 2016, which, in the view of the Secretariat, is a challenging task. The Secretariat will undertake a series of actions in supporting the Contracting Parties in their efforts to prepare and submit on time their reports:

- a) Provide advice to Contracting Parties subject to fund availability;
- b) Undertake consultation with the Focal Points on the needs to build capacities of the Contracting Parties and prepare a report for submission to COP 20. The first draft will be submitted to the 84th Bureau Meeting;
- c) Further work on a proposal for the preparation of a simplified reporting format for submission to the 83rd Bureau Meeting in 2016 for review and suggestions;
- d) Launch a testing process of the revised format by end of 2016-beginning of 2017 and a written consultation with the Contracting Parties;
- e) Finalize the revised reporting format based on testing feedback for submission to the 84th Bureau Meeting in 2017 and, as appropriate, to COP 20.

26. In view of the above, the Secretariat will launch as soon as possible the processes for the implementation of the above-mentioned decision. The Secretariat wishes to bring to the attention of the Bureau the possible challenges determined by the current vacancy of both the Governance Programme Officer and the Legal Officer at the Secretariat, whose recruitment is currently under way.

Composition of the Compliance Committee

27. Pursuant to Decision IG 17/2, COP 19 adopted decision IG 22/17 on the composition of the Compliance Committee. As a result the Committee composition was renewed with five new members from Albania, France, Israel, Spain and Turkey.

28. COP 19 also decided that Egypt, Algeria and Monaco should nominate experts for election by the 82nd Meeting of the Bureau.

29. In this respect the Secretariat has sent letters to the concerned Contracting Parties (namely Algeria, Egypt and Monaco) and subject to their response, the Secretariat will prepare an addendum to the present report as soon as possible.

30. Proposed Recommendations:

(a) The Bureau urges the remaining Contracting Parties who have not yet done so, to submit their 2012-2013 report without further delay.

(b) The Bureau urges all Contracting Parties to start as soon as possible the preparation of their 2014-2015 reports, in order to comply fully with the deadline set by the COP 19 Decision IG.22/16.

(c) The Bureau takes note of the proposal by the Secretariat with regard to the implementation of the decision IG.22/16 and of the limited human resources currently available at the Secretariat for this purpose.

(d) The Bureau elects the following nominated candidates to sit as Members and Alternate Members of the Compliance Committee for a term of four years until COP 21 (to be completed once nominations are received).

B. Review of MAP II

31. At COP 19 (Athens, Greece, February 2016), the Parties decided in favor of the option ii contained in document UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.22/23 on the implementation of decision IG.21/16 on Assessment of the Mediterranean Action Plan. Accordingly, the Mediterranean Action Plan Phase II document would be adjusted to reflect the key developments made in the Mediterranean Action Plan system with regard to thematic issues. The Contracting Parties agreed to proceed as proposed in option ii and that an open-ended working group of the MAP Focal Points, under the guidance of the Bureau, should be assigned to update the document for submission to the Contracting Parties at COP 20. The Group would require at least one meeting during 2016-2017. This process will be supported by resources budgeted to the amount of EUR 95,000, of which 25,000 are already approved from MTF in the biennium 2016-2017.

32. The Secretariat proposes the following course of action: (i) the Secretariat to send invitations to the Focal Points to appoint their representatives on the open-ended Working Group; (ii) the Secretariat to prepare TOR for the assignment to be shared with the Bureau at its 83rd Meeting; (iii) the Bureau to nominate the President or one of the Vice-Presidents to lead the work of the Working Group with Secretariat's support; (iv) the Working Group to hold its meeting in the first quarter of 2017; (v) the Working Group to prepare its conclusions in time for submission to the 84th Meeting of the Bureau; and (vi) the Bureau to provide its recommendations to the Meeting of MAP Focal Point in 2017.

33. It has to be noted that the external resources of EUR 70,000 are not yet secured. The Secretariat will work to this end and will inform the Bureau accordingly. It is recommended that the Contracting Party of one of the Members of the Bureau considers supporting this process with the necessary resources.

34. Proposed Recommendations:

(a) The Bureau endorses the proposed course of action for the implementation of the COP 19 conclusions on this matter.

(b) The Bureau assigns Mr/Ms ... to lead the Open-ended Working Group.

(c) The Bureau calls upon the Contracting Parties to provide the necessary additional resources to ensure the full implementation of the process and the involvement of all Contracting Parties.

C. Cooperation and Partners

35. The Secretariat has received the applications of the International Federation for Sustainable Development and Fight to Poverty in the Mediterranean-Black Sea (FISPMED) and the Fondation Mohamed VI pour la Protection de l'Environnement for accreditation as UNEP/MAP Partners.

36. The Secretariat has reviewed the documentation submitted in line with Decision 19/6 on "MAP/Civil society cooperation and partnership" and found that both organizations meet the criteria for such accreditation. The results of the evaluation of their application are presented in the Annex to the present report for the Bureau consideration.

37. The Secretariat recommends that the Bureau approves that both organizations be admitted as MAP partners and ask the Secretariat to take note of this decision and submit it in due course for endorsement by COP 20 (November 2017).

38. The Secretariat has held consultations with the European Environment Agency (EEA) with the objective to review and update the Joint Plan of Work that was approved in 2006. The updated joint workplan builds on the achievements of the 2006-2008 joint work plan and charts the path forward for the period 2016-2021. Through this agreement, both parties intend to intensify their partnership and increase the effectiveness of their work. Its timing takes into consideration recent policy developments and shared achievements and aims to underline the role of information delivery and dissemination in supporting the implementation of these policies, in particular the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD) 2016-2025, the UNEP/MAP Mid-Term Strategy 2016-2021, the joint work programme between the European Commission (EC) and UNEP/MAP, the Strategic Partnership between UNEP and the EC, the EU Enlargement Policy, the European Neighbourhood Policy, the EU MSFD, and the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) Horizon 2020 initiative. It is expected that the Joint Plan of Work will be ready and agreed by UNEP/MAP and EEA by April 2016. The document will be distributed to all Contracting Parties.

39. During the past biennium, an MOU has been negotiated and drafted with MEDPAN to provide a framework of cooperation and understanding, and to facilitate collaboration between the Parties to further their shared goals and objectives in regard to the following areas: (i) Maintaining and enhancing marine and coastal biological diversity and achieve sustainable management of coastal and marine resources; (ii) Protection and management of coastal and marine areas of particular importance in the Mediterranean; (iii) Strengthening collaboration mechanisms and partnerships to address common regional objectives. The draft MOU is now at its final stages of development and will be submitted to the 83rd Meeting of the Bureau for consideration before COP 20.

40. The Joint Strategy between RAC/SPA, ACCOBAMS, GFCM and IUCN with the collaboration of MedPAN, for the spatial conservation and sustainable use of the marine environment in the Mediterranean, developed within the EcAp-MED I project is also approaching its final draft version. Keeping in mind each organization's own goals and priorities and different level of interest to geographical areas or to conservation/management topics, the proposed approach will ensure a high level of complementarity, harmonization and synergy of action regarding the establishment of area-based conservation/management measures.

41. Finally, the Secretariat will undertake a review and update of the full list of accredited UNEP/MAP Partners as soon as possible in the current biennium.

42. Proposed Recommendations:

(a) The Bureau welcomes the progress achieved on issues related to Cooperation and Partners and encourages the Secretariat to continue its work on these issues.

(b) The Bureau endorses the results of the evaluation conducted by the Secretariat of the applications submitted by the International Federation for Sustainable Development and

Fight to Poverty in the Mediterranean-Black Sea (FISPMED) and the Fondation Mohamed VI pour la Protection de l'Environnement for accreditation as UNEP/MAP Partners and requests that the Secretariat submits them to the MAP Focal Points meeting in 2017 for consideration by COP 20.

D. Outreach, Information and Communication

43. The details of the very successful coverage by media of COP 19 have been distributed by the Coordinator to Contracting Parties on 03/03/2016.
44. This was only possible with the collaboration between the MedPartnership project Communication Officer, leading the process on behalf of the Secretariat, and the RACS, the contracting parties, and UNEP HQ. In a nutshell, COP 19 has received ample attention and resulted in increased visibility of the MAP system and its work. It is essential to invest and build on these achievements, with the support of the Bureau and of the Contracting Parties.
45. This matter will be discussed with the ECP at its 28th meeting on 22-23 March 2016. In the absence of specific capacity at the Coordinating Unit, it is proposed to use the resources allocated in the 2016-2017 budget for the identification and engagement of external capacity to develop a plan of action for the biennium in line with the Communication Strategy 2012-2017 adopted by the Contracting Parties with Decision IG.20/13 entitled "Governance" (COP 17, Paris, France, January 2012).
46. At the same time, the Secretariat will finalize the development and launch of the revamped website of UNEP/MAP in English, French and Arabic, and its data base, in collaboration with the Division of Communication and Public Information of UNEP. This is expected to be completed by April 2016.
47. It is planned that the main strategic documents approved by COP 19 (Athens, Greece, February 2016) be designed, published and widely distributed in electronic format and in a limited quantity of printed versions. These may include the MSSD 2016-2025, the MTS 2016-2021, the SCP Action Plan, and the Regional Climate Change Adaptation Framework, depending on resources available.
48. The Secretariat proposes to the Bureau to jointly mobilize human resources from the Contracting Parties that can avail them to the Coordinating Unit in the form of seconded staff or Junior Professional Officers.
49. Meanwhile, the post of the MedPartnership communication officer, who has been assisting the Secretariat in information and communication activities, will end April 2016. Therefore, the communication activities should be coordinated in a clear structure, involving the whole MAP system and stakeholders.
50. The Secretariat will propose to the Bureau in due course the establishment of a full-time position within the Coordinating Unit to deal with Information and Communications functions for the MAP system, to be considered by COP 20 (December 2017) for the biennium 2018-2019.

51. Proposed Recommendations:

- (a) The Bureau expresses appreciation for the very good results of the information and communication work before and during COP 19.**
- (b) Aware of the lack of human resources at the Coordinating Unit to deal with information and communication work, the Bureau urges Contracting Parties in a position to provide Junior Professional Officers or other seconded staff to do so, and takes note of the preliminary proposal to establish a full-time position at the Coordinating Unit to be considered through the due process at COP 20.**

E. Istanbul Environment Friendly City Award

52. With Decision IG.22/19 of COP 19 (Athens, Greece, February 2016) entitled “Environment Friendly City Award” the Contracting Parties decided “to establish the Environment Friendly City Award to be conferred to Mediterranean coastal cities, and name it the “Istanbul Environment Friendly City Award”” and requested “the Secretariat, using extra budgetary resources, to finalize the procedure for the nomination and selection criteria, on the basis of the elements described in the Annex, and mechanisms for visibility, for consideration of the 2016-2017 Bureau for its approval, and grant the first award at COP 20”.

53. The regular process and timeline for granting the award as described in the above-mentioned decision will apply to the biennia from 2018 onwards. This year, work still needs to be done to develop and finalize the nomination and selection criteria and process and to grant the first award at COP 20. For this purpose, and in order to implement the decision, the Secretariat will hold consultations with Turkey on the provision of the necessary resources to launch the first edition of the Award at COP 20 in December 2017, amounting to EUR 44,000 as per the POW and Budget 2016-2017.

54. At the same time, the Coordinating Unit will consult with the Components in order to finalize the development of the criteria and modalities for this process and will report to the Bureau at its 83rd meeting for its consideration and approval.

55. Proposed Recommendations:

(a) The Bureau invites the Secretariat to proceed with the work to mobilize the necessary resources and finalize the selection criteria and process as described by the Secretariat, so that the first edition of the Award is granted at COP 20.

(b) The Bureau expresses appreciation for the support of Turkey to this process.

F. Planning for the Implementation of the POW 2016-2017

56. The delayed holding of COP 19 inevitably translates in a shorter period over the biennium for the implementation of the POW. The Coordinating Unit and the Components will go through a thorough and detailed discussion for planning purposes at the ECP meeting scheduled for 22-23 March 2016. The Coordinator will report on this issue to the Bureau orally at the meeting.

57. In addition, as already reported at Bureau meetings of the previous biennium, UNEP moved to the new UN Enterprise Resource Planning system based on SAP named Umoja on 1 June 2015. This has generated challenges and delays in many areas of work and it is expected that it will take still several months and up to two years for the system to stabilize. The impact of the introduction of Umoja will continue to be felt during this biennium especially in areas such as consultancies, payments and access to financial data.

58. Proposed Recommendations:

The Bureau takes note of the report provided by the Secretariat for the planning of the implementation of the Programme of Work of 2016-2017 and expresses its support to the Secretariat and RACs efforts, taking into account the limited time for its implementation in 2016 as well as UMOJA challenges.

Annex I
MAP Partner Applications Evaluation Table

INFORMATION ON THE APPLICANTS

ACRONYM	FULL NAME	Country	Aims
FISPMED	International Federation for Sustainable Development and Fight to Poverty in the Mediterranean-Black Sea	Italy	Improve the water management and demand; encourage the rational use of energy, increase that of renewable energetic resources and also limiting the climatic changes carrying out an adaptation process to them; supporting sustainable mobility through a suitable management of transport; guarantees a sustainable development that can become a driving economic sector; ensures a sustainable agricultural and rural development; encourages the sustainable urban development; favours the sustainable development of sea, coastal zones and sea resources
	Fondation Mohamed VI pour la Protection de l'Environnement	Morocco	Promote Sustainable Development through Education and sensibilization, pilot and replication projects

EVALUATION**General conditions for accreditation****Two categories of NGOs are eligible for observer status**

	FISPMED	Fondation Mohamed VI pour la Protection de l'Environnement
International and regional NGOs	√	√
National and local NGOs from Mediterranean riparian states.	√	√

Both categories of NGOs should satisfy the following general conditions:

	FISPMED	Fondation Mohamed VI pour la Protection de l'Environnement
be representative in the field(s) of their competence and fields of action by the Mediterranean Action Plan Barcelona Convention and its Protocols;	√	√
be able, through their work, to support the achievement of the objectives of the Mediterranean Action Plan/Barcelona Convention and its Protocols;	√	√

be able to make known the work of the Mediterranean Action Plan/Barcelona Convention and its Protocols in the region and/or their respective countries;	√	√
be able to contribute, through a specific project or programme, to the implementation of MAP/Barcelona Convention and its Protocols programme of activities;	√	√
be able to contribute, through a specific event or manifestation linked to a Mediterranean Action Plan field of activity, to public awareness-raising;	√	√
be able to provide, through their specific activity or experience, expert advice on the definition of Mediterranean Action Plan policies, programmes and actions;	√	√
be able regularly to disseminate information to their members, where applicable, on the standards, activities and achievements of the Mediterranean Action Plan/Barcelona Convention in their own field(s) of competence;	√	√
be able to furnish, either spontaneously or at the request of the Mediterranean Action Plan's different bodies, information, documents or opinions relating to their own field(s) of competence.	√	√

Part II: Specific accreditation criteria and procedures

Accreditation

The following criteria apply to international and national/local NGOs:

	FISPMED	Fondation Mohamed VI pour la Protection de l'Environnement
to have legal status; terms of reference, objectives and scope of activities related to one or more of MAP's areas of activity and to the scope of the Convention and its Protocols;	√	√
to have existed for at least 4 years;	√	√
to submit financial and activity reports from the last two years;	√	√
to operate democratically;	√	√
to have their regional office or headquarters in a Mediterranean country;	√	√

to demonstrate proof of general or specialised, technical or scientific competence on issues related to the activities of MAP, the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols;	√	√
to demonstrate what contributions the NGO could make to MAP and the Convention and Protocols.	√	√

The following specific criteria apply to national/local NGOs:

	FISPMED	Fondation Mohamed VI pour la Protection de l'Environnement
NGO objectives genuinely related to the marine environment and coastal zones;	√	√
NGOs participating or wishing to participate in specific national or local programmes or projects on the implementation of the objectives of the MAP/Barcelona Convention and its Protocols.	√	√