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84th 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 June 2017

Agenda Item 3: Progress Report for the period September 2016-May 2017

Progress report by the Secretariat on the implementation of COP 19 Decisions

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UN Environment/MAP
Athens, 2017

	<p><i>Requests</i> the Secretariat to prepare for adoption at COP 20 a new, comprehensive Resource Mobilization Strategy corresponding to the period of the MTS;</p>	<p>YELLOW</p>								
	<p><i>Requests</i> also the Secretariat to monitor and report on the MTS implementation on the basis of each biennial Programme of Work as adopted by the Conference of the Parties, highlighting the contribution of the Programme of Work to the achievement of the MTS objectives and strategic outcomes for information and possible adaptations of the Strategy, as appropriate;</p>	<p>YELLOW</p>								
	<p><i>Requests</i> the Secretariat to launch an independent evaluation of the MTS implementation in 2020 for the consideration of COP 22 in 2021, with special emphasis on the interlinkages with the objectives of the MSSD 2016-2025 and the UNEP/MAP EcAp-based Ecological Objectives.</p>	<p>ORANGE</p>								
<p><u>Decision IG.22/2</u></p>	<p><i>Adopts</i>, as a strategic guiding document for all stakeholders and partners to translate the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the regional, sub-regional and national levels, the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD) 2016-2025 as contained in the Annex to this Decision;</p>	<p>GREEN</p>								

Mediterranean Strategy on Sustainable Development 2016-2025	<p><i>Encourages</i> Contracting Parties to reflect as appropriate the objectives, strategic directions and actions set out in the MSSD 2016-2025 into national strategies for Sustainable Development, bearing in mind the importance of the integrated and sustainable approach to development provided by the MSSD for achieving the protection of the marine and coastal environment;</p>	GREEN								
	<p><i>Invites</i> countries to use the MSSD 2016-2025 as a Framework for further integrating sustainable development into their national policies and building horizontal synergies between different government sectors and vertical synergies between different levels of government from local to central and vice versa;</p>	GREEN								
	<p><i>Encourages</i> the Contracting Parties to ensure adequate support, full visibility and wide dissemination of the MSSD 2016-2025 at all levels;</p>	GREEN								
	<p><i>Invites</i> international organizations, initiatives and programmes working in the field of Sustainable Development in the Mediterranean to contribute to the implementation of the MSSD 2016-2025 and streamline its priorities in their work and commitments;</p>	GREEN								
	<p><i>Calls</i> on all Mediterranean stakeholders to contribute to the implementation of the MSSD 2016-2025;</p>	GREEN								

<p>Decision IG.22/4 Regional Strategy for Prevention of and Response to Marine Pollution from Ships (2016- 2021)</p>	<p><i>Adopts</i> the Regional Strategy for Prevention of and Response to Marine Pollution from Ships (2016-2021), hereinafter referred to as “the Regional Strategy (2016-2021)”, contained in the Annex to this Decision;</p>	<p>GREEN</p>								
	<p><i>Urges</i> the Contracting Parties to continue strengthening and accelerating their efforts in implementing the 2002 Prevention and Emergency Protocol, through the Regional Strategy (2016-2021);</p>	<p>GREEN</p>								
	<p><i>Encourages</i> the Contracting Parties, wherever possible, to conduct national and sub-regional activities in support of the objectives of the Regional Strategy (2016-2021);</p>	<p>GREEN</p>								
	<p><i>Requests</i> the Secretariat to explore opportunities for further cooperation or synergy with regional and international organisations, bilateral and multilateral cooperation agencies, and other relevant actors, including the oil and gas industry;</p>	<p>YELLOW</p>								

	<p><i>Requests</i> the Secretariat (REMPEC) to provide assistance to Mediterranean coastal States in the context of implementing the Regional Strategy (2016-2021), aligning its priorities to those approved within the framework of sectorial Regional Strategies and Action Plans, such as the Mediterranean Strategy on Ships' Ballast Water Management (the BWM Mediterranean Strategy) and the Mediterranean Offshore Protocol Action Plan and other relevant developments at the global level, such as the institutionalisation of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) Member State Audit Scheme (IMSAS) and to collaborate with relevant organisations, such as the European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA), on current and future initiatives;</p>	<p>YELLOW</p>								
	<p><i>Urges</i> Contracting Parties and partners including industry to contribute adequate human and financial resources for a full and effective implementation of the Regional Strategy (2016-2021).</p>	<p>GREEN</p>								

	<p><i>Adopts</i> the Action Plan on Sustainable Consumption and Production in the Mediterranean (herein after referred to as “Action Plan”) contained in the Annex to this Decision including the corresponding Roadmap for implementation, as a substantive contribution to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;</p>	<p>GREEN</p>								
<p>Decision IG.22/5 Regional Action Plan on Sustainable Consumption and Production in the Mediterranean</p>	<p><i>Strongly</i> encourages the Contracting Parties to mainstream SCP in national and local development policies, according to national laws in order to implement the Action Plan at the national and local levels, ensuring enabling conditions, policy coherence and promotion of synergies among national stakeholders and understanding the need to support member countries in the implementation through capacity building and technology transfer;</p>	<p>GREEN</p>								
	<p><i>Requests</i> the Coordinating Unit and the MAP components, to ensure the coordinated delivery of regional actions in support of the countries’ efforts, including through technical assistance, capacity building and transfer of know-how and technology programme, upon request and subject to availability of funds;</p>	<p>YELLOW</p>								

	<p>Requests UNEP/MAP in cooperation with relevant international and regional organisations, to prepare specific SCP guidelines, taking into account as appropriate existing guidelines, to support and facilitate the implementation of the actions provided for in the Action Plan that fall under the competences and scope of action of the MAP/Barcelona Convention;</p>	<p>ORANGE</p>								
	<p>Encourages relevant international organizations and in particular the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM), intergovernmental organizations, donor agencies, industry, non-governmental organizations, business organizations and academic institutions to support the implementation of the Regional Action Plan and streamline its priorities in their work;</p>	<p>GREEN</p>								
	<p>Encourages the Contracting Parties to also include information on measures taken implementing the Action Plan in the relevant sections of their reporting under the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols;</p>	<p>GREEN</p>								
	<p>Requests the Coordinating Unit in coordination with SCP/RAC to undertake in 2020 an indicator-based midterm evaluation of the Action Plan implementation for submission to COP 21.</p>	<p>ORANGE</p>								

	<p><i>Requests</i> the Secretariat to include appropriate measures for climate change adaptation in the new comprehensive Resource Mobilisation Strategy being prepared for COP 20 in accordance with Decision IG.22/4, which would include identification and mobilisation of external resources to support Contracting Parties in enhancing their capacity and effectively face the challenges of climate change adaptation in the marine and coastal environment.</p>	<p>ORANGE</p>								
	<p><i>Adopts</i> the Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme of the Mediterranean Sea and Coast and Related Assessment Criteria (IMAP), as presented in Annex to this decision;</p>	<p>GREEN</p>								
<p>Decision IG.22/7 Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme of the Mediterranean Sea and Coast and Related Assessment Criteria</p>	<p><i>Takes note</i> of the Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Guidance as presented in UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.22/Inf.7 and requests the Secretariat and the Correspondence Groups on Monitoring to work on its refinement, during the initial phase of IMAP, especially in relation to scales of assessment, specification and further quantification of GES, and further development of the candidate indicators;</p>	<p>YELLOW</p>								
	<p><i>Takes into account</i> the different monitoring capacities of the Contracting Parties and the need for capacity building and technical assistance for implementation;</p>	<p>GREEN</p>								

	<i>Urges</i> the Contracting Parties, with the support of the Secretariat, to update their national monitoring programmes in light of the new elements of IMAP and report regularly quality assured data;	GREEN								
	<i>Encourages</i> the Contracting Parties to undertake, when appropriate, joint monitoring initiatives on a pilot basis, with the aim to exchange best practices, use harmonized methodologies, and ensure cost efficiency;	GREEN								
	<i>Encourages</i> the Contracting Parties to support and take part in regional initiatives and projects lead by competent partner organizations that will contribute to the implementation of the initial phase of the IMAP in order to strengthen strategic and operational regional synergies;	GREEN								
	<i>Requests</i> the Secretariat to work further with relevant partner organizations, in order to strengthen technical support that countries might need to implement IMAP and integration in IMAP of the Ecological Objectives that are not yet included in its initial phase.	YELLOW								
Decision IG.22/8 Implementation of Updated National Action Plans (NAPs), Containing	<i>Endorses</i> the NAPs 2016-2025 as unique policy documents comprising legally binding programmes of measures and timetables required to achieve GES and the Regional Plans/LBS Protocol objectives in the framework of SAP-MED.	GREEN								

	<p><i>Urges</i> the Contracting Parties to report on the implementation of the Regional Plan, including the measures related to the Guidelines, by the end of 2016 in order for COP 20 to review them as provided for in Article 6 of the Regional Plan;</p>	<p>GREEN</p>								
	<p><i>Encourages</i> all Contacting Parties to ratify the Minamata Convention on Mercury to further demonstrate the Mediterranean region commitment to prevent, reduce, eliminate and manage in an environmental sound manner mercury inputs and waste;</p>	<p>GREEN</p>								
	<p><i>Requests</i> the Secretariat (MED POL and SCP/RAC) to facilitate the work of the Contracting Parties for the implementation of the Guidelines, making efforts to ensure synergies with the relevant work under the Minamata Convention on Mercury, and collaboration with the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) H2020.</p>	<p>YELLOW</p>								
<p>Decision IG.22/10 Implementing the Marine</p>	<p><i>Adopts</i> the Fishing for Litter Guidelines in accordance with Articles 9(6) and 10(e) of the Regional Plan as contained in Annex I to this Decision;</p>	<p>GREEN</p>								

<p>Litter Regional Plan in the Mediterranean (Fishing for Litter Guidelines, Assessment Report, Baselines Values, and Reduction Targets)</p>	<p><i>Adopts</i> the marine litter baseline values contained in Annex II to this Decision against which the implementation of Regional Plan programmes of measures should be assessed for indicative purposes, taking into account that such values will be subject to periodic adjustment based on additional new data coming from the implementation of National Marine Litter monitoring programmes as well as their specification where appropriate at sub regional and/or national levels;</p>	GREEN								
	<p><i>Adopts</i>, without prejudice to relevant existing or to be adopted stricter reduction and prevention targets, a basin-wide marine litter reduction target of 20% of beach litter by 2024 and a significant and measurable decrease of other marine litter items as contained in Annex III to this Decision;</p>	GREEN								
	<p><i>Takes note</i> of the updated Marine Litter Assessment Report prepared by the Secretariat (MED POL) (Information document UNEP(DEPI)MED IG.22/Inf.9) in accordance with Article 11(e) of the Regional Plan as the first Marine Litter Assessment after the entry into force of the Regional Plan;</p>	GREEN								
	<p><i>Strongly encourages</i> the Contracting Parties to take the necessary measures to implement the Regional Plan in a timely manner considering as appropriate measures related to micro-plastic; and submit a report on measures taken by 2017 for the considerations of COP 20</p>	YELLOW								

	<p><i>Invites</i> all Contracting Parties to join and contribute to the Global Marine Litter Partnership led by UNEP;</p>	<p>GREEN</p>								
	<p><i>Requests</i> the Secretariat (MED POL, REMPEC and SCP/RAC) to facilitate the work of the Contracting Parties for the implementation of the Regional Plan and ensure for this purpose strong synergies and regular coordination with other regional organizations working on marine litter in the Mediterranean, with special emphasis on regional processes of adjacent marine regions such as the Black Sea Commission and OSPAR.</p>	<p>YELLOW</p>								
<p>Decision IG.22/11 Mid-term Evaluation of the Action Plan for the Implementation of the ICZM Protocol for the Mediterranean (2012-2019)</p>	<p><i>Takes note</i> of the report on the Mid-term Evaluation of the Action Plan for the implementation of the ICZM Protocol for the Mediterranean (2012-2019) as contained in the Annex to this Decision;</p>	<p>GREEN</p>								
	<p><i>Urges</i> the Contracting Parties that have not yet done so, to ratify the ICZM Protocol as early as possible with the view to ensuring its entry into force for the entire Mediterranean Region within the Action Plan timeframe;</p>	<p>YELLOW</p>								
	<p><i>Invites</i> the Contracting Parties to prepare national strategies for ICZM in order to scale up ICZM as the strategic option for sustainable development of their coastal zones and to reach the objective of having national strategies for ICZM adopted by all countries within the Action Plan time frame;</p>	<p>YELLOW</p>								

	<p><i>Requests</i> the Coordinating Unit and PAP/RAC to develop a new cycle of CAMP projects that will take into account the recommendations of the report on the Assessment of CAMP Projects, especially with regard to embedding the projects into national policy frameworks, extending them to the marine part of the coastal zone, and making of them a privileged space of integration of all UNEP/MAP components work;</p>	<p>YELLOW</p>								
	<p><i>Invites</i> the Secretariat to ensure consideration of land-sea interactions and integration of terrestrial and marine planning and management in respect of the ecosystem integrity and their vulnerability to climate change impact and with the aim to contribute to the implementation of the ICZM Protocol and its Action Plan and to reaching the EcAp-based Ecological Objectives of UNEP/MAP;</p>	<p>YELLOW</p>								

	<p><i>Invites</i> the Secretariat to assess the effectiveness of the Action Plan in ensuring the ecosystem integrity and achieve the objectives of EcAp-based ecological objectives of UNEP/MAP, to assess the need for its revision, and to define a common regional framework for ICZM including climate change issues as appropriate (article 17 of the ICZM Protocol) for consideration at COP 20;</p>	<p>YELLOW</p>								
	<p><i>Calls</i> upon the Coordinating Unit and PAP/RAC to strengthen the governance mechanisms for ICZM by establishing an official network of CAMP and CAMP-like projects to facilitate exchange of experience and good practices, cross-border cooperation and mutual assistance in implementing ICZM according to the principles and objectives enounced in the ICZM Protocol.</p>	<p>YELLOW</p>								
<p>Decision IG.22/12 Updated Action Plans Concerning “Cetaceans”, “Coralligenous and Other Calcareous Bioconcretions”,</p>	<p><i>Adopts</i> the Updated Action Plan for the Conservation of Cetaceans in the Mediterranean Sea, as contained in Annex I to this Decision;</p>	<p>GREEN</p>								
	<p><i>Adopts</i> the Updated Action Plan for the Conservation of the Coralligenous and Other Calcareous Bio-concretions in the Mediterranean Sea, as contained in Annex II to this Decision;</p>	<p>GREEN</p>								

<p>and “Species Introductions and Invasive Species”; Mandate for update of the “Action Plan on Marine and Coastal Birds” and revision of the “Reference List of Marine and Coastal Habitat Types in the Mediterranean”</p>	<p><i>Adopts</i> the Updated Action Plan concerning Species Introductions and Invasive Species in the Mediterranean Sea, as contained in Annex III to this Decision;</p>	GREEN									
	<p><i>Requests</i> the Contracting Parties to take the necessary measures for the implementation of the updated Action Plans and report according to the cycle and format of the MAP/Barcelona Convention reporting system;</p>	GREEN									
	<p><i>Requests</i> SPA/RAC to provide support to the full implementation of the updated Action Plans;</p>	YELLOW									
	<p><i>Requests</i> also SPA/RAC to update the Action Plan for the Conservation of Bird Species listed in Annex II to the SPA/BD Protocol including all 25 target species, and to revise the Reference List of Marine and Coastal Habitat Types in the Mediterranean for consideration by COP 20, taking in full account the biodiversity-related MAP Ecological Objectives, IMAP, and GES targets.</p>	YELLOW									
<p>Decision IG.22/13 Roadmap for a Comprehensive Coherent Network of Well-Managed Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) to</p>	<p><i>Adopts</i> the Roadmap for a Comprehensive Coherent Network of Well-Managed MPAs to Achieve Aichi Target 11 in the Mediterranean, as set out in Annex I to this Decision, as guidance to update and implement the Regional Working Programme for the Coastal and Marine Protected Areas in the Mediterranean including the High Sea;</p>	GREEN									

<p>Achieve Aichi Target 11 in the Mediterranean</p>	<p><i>Strongly</i> encourages the Contracting Parties, with the support of the Secretariat, to take into account the Roadmap in the implementation of the Regional Working Programme for the Coastal and Marine Protected Areas in the Mediterranean including the High Seas;</p>	<p>YELLOW</p>								
	<p><i>Strongly</i> emphasizes the importance of cooperation with relevant international and regional organizations, including donors, to contribute to the implementation of the Regional Working Programme for the Coastal and Marine Protected Areas in the Mediterranean including the High Sea supported by this Roadmap in a synergic and coordinated way, promoting sharing networks, experiences and resources, and to assist countries to upgrade MPA management and undertake the appropriate steps to urgently increase the surface areas covered by MPAs in the Mediterranean;</p>	<p>GREEN</p>								
	<p><i>Welcomes</i> as an example of an innovative financial mechanism for biodiversity, the establishment of a trust fund for Mediterranean MPAs promoted by Monaco, Tunisia and France and welcomes the progress made in this regard, in particular the financial contribution by Monaco; and looks forward to the support by Stakeholders to this initiative;</p>	<p>GREEN</p>								

	<p><i>Requests</i> the Secretariat to strengthen links with relevant international and regional organizations in order to promote sustainable management of marine areas through appropriate area- based conservation measures, including on the high seas, as appropriate;</p>	<p>YELLOW</p>								
	<p><i>Takes note</i> of the suggested actions as included in objective 4, addressing the need to ensure the sustainability of the network of Mediterranean MPAs by enhancing their financial sustainability and requests the Secretariat to include appropriate measures in the new, comprehensive Resource Mobilization Strategy being prepared for COP 20 in accordance with Decision IG 22/4;</p>	<p>YELLOW</p>								
	<p><i>Requests</i> the Secretariat to undertake an evaluation of the implementation of the Regional Work Programme supported by this Roadmap and report the results to COP 20.</p>	<p>YELLOW</p>								
<p>Decision IG.22/14 List of Specially Protected Areas of Mediterranean Importance (SPAMI List)</p>	<p><i>Decides</i> to include the Karaburun-Sazan National Marine Park (Albania) in the SPAMI List;</p>	<p>GREEN</p>								
	<p><i>Requests</i> the concerned Party to take the necessary protection and conservation measures specified in its SPAMI proposal in accordance with Article 9, paragraph 3 and Annex I to the SPA/BD Protocol;</p>	<p>GREEN</p>								

<p><i>Requests</i> the Secretariat in cooperation with SPA/RAC to inform the competent international organizations of the new SPAMI including the measures taken in that SPAMI, as provided for in Article 9, paragraph 5 of the SPA/BD Protocol;</p>	<p>YELLOW</p>								
<p><i>Takes note</i> of the “Revised Format for the Periodic Review of SPAMIs” (UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.421/Inf.27) prepared by SPA/RAC in consultation with the Focal Points of SPA/RAC;</p>	<p>GREEN</p>								
<p><i>Requests</i> SPA/RAC to test it and, on this basis, to further develop it in consultation with Focal Points of SPA/RAC for consideration by COP 20, by:</p>	<p>YELLOW</p>								
<p>- Preparing an online version of the Revised Format and using it on a trial basis for the evaluation of SPAMIs of 2017, along with the old version of the Evaluation Format;</p>									
<p>- Investigating options to further adapt the Evaluation Format to the case of transboundary SPAMIs or SPAMIs covering ANBJ zones;</p>									
<p>- Preparing guidelines for evaluators, aiming to provide them with information and guidance on the methodology, assessment criteria and scoring system; and</p>									
<p>- Exploring the possibility of harmonization of the SPAMI Review Format with relevant tools used in similar contexts of other regional seas, e.g. OSPAR, and other relevant regulatory initiatives;</p>									

	<p><i>Requests</i> SPA/RAC to work with the relevant authorities in Algeria and Italy to carry out during 2017 the Ordinary Periodic Review for the following three SPAMIs, according to the procedure adopted by the Contracting Parties, and while using the online version of the Revised Format on a trial basis, along with the old version of the Evaluation Format:</p>	GREEN								
<p>- Banc des Kabyles Nature Reserve (Algeria);</p>										
<p>- Habibas Islands (Algeria); and</p>										
<p>- Portofino Marine Protected Area (Italy).</p>										
<p>Decision IG.22/15 Compliance Mechanisms and Procedures, Membership and Working Programme of the Compliance Committee for the Biennium 2016-2017</p>	<p><i>Adopts</i> 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;</p>	GREEN								
	<p><i>Also adopts</i> the 2016-2017 Work Programme of the Compliance Committee, contained in Annex III to this Decision;</p>									

	<p><i>Requests</i> again all the MAP components to provide the Compliance Committee with useful information and the necessary technical assistance and support to help the Committee comply with its responsibilities, particularly to undertake a better assessment of the Reports submitted by the Contracting Parties and verify their content, as well as assessing the current or potential cases of non-compliance or general compliance issues by the Contracting Parties;</p>	<p>YELLOW</p>								
	<p><i>Invites</i> the Compliance Committee to examine in accordance with paragraph 17, sub-paragraphs b) and c), of the Compliance Procedures and Mechanisms, the general issues related to compliance, particularly the recurrent problems of non-compliance with these obligations;</p>	<p>YELLOW</p>								
	<p><i>Elects and/or renews</i> the Compliance Committee members and alternate members as presented in Annex IV of the present Decision, in accordance with the Procedures set by virtue of Decision IG.17/2 related to Compliance Procedures and Mechanisms as amended by Decision IG.20/1.</p>	<p>RED</p>								

<p>Decision IG.22/16 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</p>	<p><i>Urges</i> the Contracting Parties to officially submit their biennial report to the Secretariat in October 2016 at the latest, regarding the measures taken to implement the Convention and its Protocols for the biennium 2014-2015 by using the online reporting format;</p>	GREEN								
	<p><i>Adopts</i> the operational section of the reporting format of the Protocol of the Integrated Coastal Zone Management in the Mediterranean, as contained in the Annex to this Decision;</p>	GREEN								
	<p><i>Requests</i> the Contracting Parties having ratified the Protocol and invites the signatory Parties to submit, on a voluntary basis, a report of the implementation of the Protocol within the framework of the reporting system of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols;</p>	GREEN								
	<p><i>Requests</i> the Secretariat to provide, subject to the availability of funds, advice to the Contracting Parties to submit, within the set deadlines, full reports about the implementation of all MAP legal instruments;</p>	YELLOW								
	<p><i>Requests</i> the Secretariat to consult the Contracting Parties about the need to build capacities regarding the preparation of reports and inform the twentieth meeting of the Contracting Parties of the conclusions of this consultation;</p>	YELLOW								
	<p><i>Reiterates</i> its request for a simplified reporting format to be presented in the first year of the biennium to the Bureau for review and suggestions;</p>	YELLOW								

	<p><i>Invites</i> Contracting Parties to consider their participation in the format testing exercise at the beginning of 2017 to facilitate the finalization of simplified reporting format;</p>	<p>GREEN</p>								
	<p><i>Requests</i> the Secretariat, after consulting with the Bureau, to launch a written consultation with the Contracting Parties in view of submitting the simplified reporting format to COP 20;</p>	<p>YELLOW</p>								
	<p><i>Requests</i> the Secretariat to undertake an analysis of the information mentioned in the national reports in order to draft a report addressing the general status of the progress in the region, on the legal, institutional and technical points of view, in the implementation of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols, if any, and submit this report to the twentieth meeting of the Contracting Parties.</p>	<p>YELLOW</p>								
<p>Decision IG.22/17 Reform of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD) And Updated MCSD Constitutive Documents</p>	<p><i>Adopts</i> the Composition of the MCSD and its terms of reference as an advisory body to the Contracting Parties, as contained in Annex I to this Decision;</p>	<p>GREEN</p>								
	<p><i>Approves</i> the rules of procedure of the MCSD, as provided in Annex I to this Decision;</p>	<p>GREEN</p>								
	<p><i>Requests</i> the Secretariat to improve MCSD visibility notably at the United Nations High Level Political Forum and other relevant fora at global and regional level, relying on UNEP institutional capacities;</p>	<p>YELLOW</p>								

	<p>Requests the Secretariat to consider the need for at least one face to face meeting of the MCSD Steering Committee in the intersessional period between MCSD Meetings;</p>	<p>GREEN</p>								
	<p>Encourages the members of the MCSD to support this process by hosting the meetings of the Steering Committee, to enable at least one face to face meeting in a biennium;</p>	<p>GREEN</p>								
	<p>Decides on the new non-Contracting Party membership of the MCSD, as proposed by the MCSD and its Steering Committee, which add the parliamentarian group and therefore brings the total number of MCSD Members from 37 to 40:</p>	<p>GREEN</p>								
	<p>- The Local Authorities Group: Association of Italian Local Agenda 21, MEDCITIES, the Mediterranean Commission of the United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG);</p>									
	<p>- The Socio-economic Stakeholders Group: Arab Network for Environment and Development (RAED), Union of Mediterranean Confederations of Enterprises (UMCE), ANIMA Investment Network (Cooperation platform for economic development in the Mediterranean);</p>									

	<p>- The Non-Governmental Organizations Group: World Wide Fund for Nature – Mediterranean Programme Office (WWF MedPO), Environnement et Développement au Maghreb (ENDA-Maghreb), Mediterranean Information Office for Environment Culture and Sustainable Development (MIO ECSDE);</p>									
<p>- The Scientific Community Group: Forum Euroméditerranée des Instituts de Sciences Economiques (FEMISE), Mediterranean Programme for International Environmental Law and Negotiation (MEPIELAN) and Mediterranean Sustainable Development Solutions Network (Med-SDSN);</p>										
<p>- The Intergovernmental Organizations Group: International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN), Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) Secretariat, Centre for Environment and Development for the Arab Region and Europe (CEDARE).</p>										
<p>- Parliamentarians: Parliamentary Assembly of the Union for the Mediterranean (PA-UfM), Circle of Mediterranean Parliamentarians on Sustainable Development (COMPSUD), Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean (PAM).</p>										

	<p><i>Requests</i> the Secretariat, in accordance with Rule 5 paragraphs 1 and 3 to invite and involve as observers other UN bodies active in the Mediterranean, inter alia UNDP (RBAS and RBEC), UN- HABITAT, UNIDO, GFCM, FAO, UN ESCWA, UN WTO, UNECE, UNECA, UNESCO and the World Bank. Additionally, it should be considered to involve representatives of youth organizations to MCSD as observers;</p>	YELLOW								
	<p><i>Requests</i> the Secretariat to invite Palestine to attend future MCSD meetings as an observer;</p>	YELLOW								
	<p><i>Invites</i> Contracting Parties to participate on a voluntary basis in a simple MSSD peer review process as described in Annex II of this Decision and requests the Secretariat to support this process;</p>	YELLOW								
	<p><i>Encourages</i> MCSD Members to be more involved between meetings, participating in projects and actions to follow-up on the MSSD implementation, sharing good practices, knowledge transfer, and peer review, and enhance the visibility of the MCSD.</p>	GREEN								
<p>Decision IG.22/18 Cooperation and Partners</p>	<p><i>Endorses</i> the list of new MAP Partners attached as Annex I to this Decision;</p>	GREEN								
	<p><i>Welcomes</i> the cooperation agreement contained in Annex II of this Decision and invites the Secretariat of the Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and contiguous Atlantic Area (ACCOBAMS) to sign it;</p>	GREEN								

	Further <i>welcomes</i> the cooperation agreement contained in Annex III of this Decision and invites the Permanent Secretariat of the Commission on the Protection of the Black Sea Against Pollution (BSC PS) to sign it;	GREEN								
	<i>Requests</i> the Secretariat to initiate discussions with relevant regional and international organisations with the aim to optimise synergies and coordination on response and assistance in case of major accidental pollution in the Mediterranean; and	YELLOW								
	<i>Requests</i> the Secretariat to further expand the cooperation with regional and international organisations, bilateral and multilateral cooperation agencies, and other relevant actors, including the private sector, with a view to mobilising as many actors as possible in support of implementing in a coherent, synergistic and effective manner the priorities established by the Contracting Parties.	YELLOW								
Decision IG.22/19 Environment Friendly City Award	<i>Takes note</i> of the main elements of the Award process as contained in the Annex to this Decision;	GREEN								
	<i>Decides</i> to establish the Environment Friendly City Award to be conferred to Mediterranean coastal cities, and name it the “Istanbul Environment Friendly City Award”;	GREEN								

	<p><i>Requests</i> 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;</p>	<p>YELLOW</p>								
	<p><i>Welcomes</i> with appreciation the commitment of Turkey to finance the implementation of this award;</p>	<p>GREEN</p>								
	<p><i>Encourages</i> city authorities to support and participate in the Award process, to promote sustainable urban development in the Mediterranean region.</p>	<p>GREEN</p>								
<p>Decision IG.22/20 Programme of Work and Budget 2016- 2017</p>	<p><i>Approves</i> the 2016-2017 Programme of Work and Budget set out in the Annex to this Decision;</p>	<p>GREEN</p>								
	<p><i>Approves</i> the budget appropriations, as set out in Table 1. “Overview of income and commitments” of the Annex to this Decision, in the amount of EUR 11,413,577 for the Mediterranean Trust Fund and welcomes with appreciation the EU discretionary contribution of EUR 1,192,968 and the host country contribution of USD 800,000, inclusive of the amount set aside to cover the deficit in the Host Government Contribution account;</p>	<p>GREEN</p>								
	<p><i>Welcomes</i> with appreciation the in-cash and in-kind counterpart contributions by the Contracting Parties and other Organizations in support of the implementation of the 2016-2017 biennium Programme of Work;</p>	<p>GREEN</p>								

<p>Approves the assessed 2016-2017 ordinary contributions from Parties shown in Table 2. “Expected Ordinary Income” of the Annex to this Decision, which reflects the 2016-2018 scale of assessment adopted by the UN General Assembly (UNGA) at its 70th Session on 23 December 2015 in Resolution A/RES/70/245 and confirms the importance of keeping the scale used for ordinary contributions up to date;</p>	<p>GREEN</p>								
<p>Notes that the Secretariat, in consultation with the Executive Director of UNEP, rephased savings from 2015 to 2016, in order to cover the operational needs of the MAP system in the first months of 2016 within the expenditure limits as defined in this Programme of Work and Budget;</p>	<p>GREEN</p>								
<p>Acknowledges, in this context, the importance of holding conferences of the Parties in advance of the start of the biennium, to ensure timely adoption of the Programme of Work and Budget;</p>	<p>GREEN</p>								
<p>Requests the Executive Director of UNEP, in consultation with the United Nations Environment Assembly, to extend the Mediterranean Trust Fund through 31 December 2017;</p>	<p>GREEN</p>								
<p>Approves the increase of the working capital reserve by EUR 25,000 in order to maintain it at the level of 15% of the annual expenditures, thus making its total EUR 856,000;</p>	<p>GREEN</p>								

	<p>Approves the staffing of the Coordinating Unit and MED POL for 2016-2017 as indicated in Table 4a. “Details of Salaries and Administrative Costs of the Secretariat” in the Annex to this Decision;</p>	<p>GREEN</p>								
	<p>Takes note of the staffing of REMPEC for 2016–2017 as indicated in Table 4b,“Details of Salaries and Administrative Costs of REMPEC” in the Annex to this Decision;</p>	<p>GREEN</p>								
	<p>Urges the Contracting Parties to pay their contributions to the MTF in accordance with Procedure 4.2 of the Financial Rules and Procedures to allow for the full and effective implementation of the Programme of Work;</p>	<p>GREEN</p>								
	<p>Requests the Secretariat to keep up to date information on the status of Contracting Parties’ contributions to the Mediterranean Trust Fund and to post it in a publicly available place on the MAP website;</p>	<p>GREEN</p>								
	<p>Welcomes the loan of USD 170,000 provided by UNEP HQs to ease the cash flow of the Host Government Contribution account and requests the Secretariat to reimburse it as soon as practical and to continue implementing the Host Government Contribution account recovery plan as adopted by COP 17;</p>	<p>GREEN</p>								

	<p><i>Authorizes</i> the Secretariat to use potential savings and the available balance under the MTF during 2016-2017 biennium, if any, within the expenditure limits as defined in this Programme of Work and Budget, to charge its operational costs until the Host Country contribution to the Host Government Contribution account is received from the Government of Greece, and to report on the charges made to the MTF fund to the Bureau;</p>	<p>GREEN</p>								
	<p><i>Welcomes</i> the measures taken by Greece to make timely payments of its Host Country contributions;</p>	<p>GREEN</p>								
	<p><i>Invites</i> the Contracting Parties to consider increasing their voluntary contributions to the MAP system in cash and/or in kind in order to further contribute to the implementation of the 2016-2017 Programme of Work;</p>	<p>GREEN</p>								
	<p><i>Urges</i> the Contracting Parties and other partners including industry to contribute adequate human and financial resources to meet the external funding requirements for priorities still unfunded under the 2016-2017 Programme of Work and Budget and to support the resource mobilization activities of the Secretariat;</p>	<p>GREEN</p>								

	<p><i>Asks</i> the Secretariat, in consultation with the Bureau, to prepare for consideration and approval by COP 20 a result-based Programme of Work and Budget for 2018-2019, explaining the key principles and assumptions on which it is based and taking into account the progress achieved during the implementation of the 2016-2017 Programme of Work, and in full alignment with the MTS;</p>	<p><i>YELLOW</i></p>								
	<p><i>Requests</i> the Secretariat, within available resources, to make an analysis of the synergies between all the existing databases and platforms within the MAP system, identify any options for improving their effectiveness and report to the 20th Meeting of the Contracting Parties;</p>	<p><i>ORANGE</i></p>								
	<p><i>Requests</i> the Secretariat, in consultation with the Executive Director of UNEP, to take account of any decisions by the 2nd Session of the UN Environment Assembly on the relationship between UNEP and multilateral agreements and to submit a report thereon to the 20th Meeting of the Contracting Parties.</p>	<p><i>ORANGE</i></p>								