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ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME  
MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN**

17 October 2017  
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20<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the  
Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment  
and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean and its Protocols

Tirana, Albania, 17-20 December 2017

**Agenda Item 2: Organizational Matters**

**Provisional Annotated Agenda**

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UNEP/MAP  
Athens, 2017

## Provisional Annotated Agenda

### Introduction

1. At the kind invitation of the Government of Albania and in line with the conclusions of the 19<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Meeting 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, 9-12 February 2016), the 20<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties (COP 20) will be hosted in Tirana, Albania, on 17-20 December 2017.
2. In accordance with Article 18 of the Barcelona Convention, the objective of the Meeting is to review the progress achieved during the 2016-2017 biennium by the Mediterranean Action Plan-Barcelona Convention system and take decisions on a number of important matters, including on the Programme of Work and Budget for 2018–2019. A Ministerial Session is also envisaged, under the theme: *Implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development with focus on Sustainable Development Goal 14: Pollution and Biodiversity*.
3. The following annotations to the proposed agenda were prepared by the Secretariat to assist the meeting in its deliberations.
4. The opening session will be preceded, as per practice, by an informal meeting of the Heads of Delegation at 10 a.m.

### Agenda item 1: Opening of the Meeting

5. The meeting will be opened at 11 a.m. on Sunday, 17 December 2017, by Ms. Christina Baritaki, President of the Bureau of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols.
6. Opening statements will be made by:
  - a) Mr. Erik Solheim, Executive Director of UNEP, or his representative;
  - b) H.E. Mr. Blendi Klosi, Minister of Tourism and Environment of Albania, or his representative;
  - c) Mr. Gaetano Leone, Coordinator of the UNEP/MAP – Barcelona Convention Secretariat.

### Agenda item 2: Organizational Matters

*Working Documents: UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.23/1, 2;*

*Information Documents: UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.23/Inf.1, Inf.17.*

#### 2.1 Rules of Procedure

7. The Rules of Procedure for Meetings and Conferences of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and Coastal Region of the Mediterranean and its Protocols will apply to this meeting.

#### 2.2 Election of Officers

8. Subject to the Rules of Procedure, the meeting shall elect the members of the Bureau from among the representatives of the Contracting Parties, consisting of a President, four Vice-Presidents and a Rapporteur. It is recalled that “*the principle of equitable geographical distribution shall be observed*” (Article 19 of the Barcelona Convention).

#### 2.3 Adoption of the Agenda

9. The Provisional Agenda of COP 20, as agreed during the Meeting of MAP Focal Points (Athens, Greece, 12-15 September 2017), is contained in document UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.23/1 and annotated in the present document.
10. Subject to the Rules of Procedure referred to in paragraph 2.1, the Meeting may wish to adopt the agenda and timetable appearing in the Annex to the present document, amended as appropriate.

## 2.4 Organization of Work

- a) It is proposed that the Meeting be held in daily sessions from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., subject to adjustments as necessary. For the first day of the meeting the proposed sessions are from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.
- b) It is expected that the Meeting address all items of the Agenda within the allotted sessions.
- c) No session is envisaged to be held in the morning of the last day (20 December 2017) to allow for the preparation of the Meeting Report. The afternoon session will start at 3 p.m. It is envisaged to close the Meeting at 6 p.m. after adopting its Report, including the Decisions.
- d) In accordance with Rule of Procedure 24, the Meeting may consider establishing such committees and other working groups as required for the transaction of its business. As per Decision IG.21/13 (Annex II), “*A Budget Contact Group should be set up during COPs in order to facilitate informed discussion among the Parties about its budget that can take account of draft decisions and the state of contributions and commitments in the ongoing biennium*”. If established, the Budget Contact Group will report to the Plenary and is expected to work during the afternoon session of 17 December 2017 and the two sessions of 18 December 2017. On the basis of the well-established practice, it is also proposed to create an informal working group to prepare the draft Tirana Ministerial Declaration, under the leadership of Albania as the Host Country of COP 20, for the consideration of the Plenary and for adoption during the Ministerial Session of COP 20.
- e) The Meeting will feature a Ministerial Session on Tuesday, 19 December 2017. The theme of the debate is *Implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development with focus on Sustainable Development Goal 14: Pollution and Biodiversity*.
- f) Simultaneous interpretation in Arabic, English, French and Spanish will be available in all plenary sessions throughout the meeting.
- g) Side events and exhibition(s) will be organized and held on the occasion of the Meeting, based on a programme to be distributed in due course.

## 2.5 Verification of Credentials

11. Rule 18 of the Rules of Procedure stipulates that each Contracting Party shall be represented by an accredited representative, who may be accompanied by such alternates and advisers as may be required.

12. Rule 19 stipulates that the credentials of the representatives and the names of the alternate representatives shall be submitted by the Contracting Parties before the opening session of the meeting which the representatives are to attend. It provides also that the Bureau shall examine the credentials of representatives and submit its report to the meeting.

13. Details for the submission of credentials in accordance with the above-mentioned Rules of Procedures have been provided to Contracting Parties with the invitation to the Meeting by the Executive Director of UNEP.

### Agenda item 3: Thematic Decisions

*Working Documents: UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.23/4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 21, 22;*  
*Information Documents: UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.23/Inf. 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16.*

14. Under this agenda item the Meeting will consider for possible adoption a number of draft decisions reviewed by the MAP Focal Points Meeting (12-15 September 2017, Athens, Greece), addressing specific issues related to the implementation of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols and including strategic and programming documents.

15. The UNEP/MAP Coordinator will briefly introduce the draft decisions highlighting in particular the main points raised at the MAP Focal Points Meeting (12-15 September 2017, Athens, Greece) and where appropriate explain related changes introduced to draft decisions.

16. The Chairperson of the Compliance Committee will introduce Draft Decision IG.23/2 as well as the report of the Compliance Committee.

17. The President of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD), will present, in accordance with the Terms of Reference of the MCSD (Decision IG.22/17, Section C. "Functioning", paragraph 5), recommendations of the MCSD "*for consideration to the Meeting of the Contracting Parties, following discussion at the meeting of the MAP Focal Points with the aim of advising on making practical and effective use of the MSSD and on the implementation of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols*".

18. The Meeting may wish to consider and adopt the following draft decisions under this agenda item:

<i>Draft Decision Number</i>	Title of the Draft Decision	Working Document Number
<i>Draft Decision IG.23/1</i>	Revised Reporting Format for the Implementation of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.23/4
<i>Draft Decision IG.23/2</i>	Compliance Committee: biennium 2016-2017	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.23/5
<i>Draft Decision IG.23/3</i>	Governance	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.23/6
<i>Draft Decision IG.23/4</i>	Implementation and Monitoring of the MSSD 2016-2025 and of the Regional Action Plan on Sustainable Consumption and Production in the Mediterranean	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.23/7; UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.23/22
<i>Draft Decision IG.23/5</i>	Updated Resource Mobilization Strategy	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.23/8
<i>Draft Decision IG.23/6</i>	2017 Mediterranean Quality Status Report	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.23/9
<i>Draft Decision IG.23/7</i>	Implementation of the Integrated Coastal Zone Management Protocol: Annotated Structure of the Common Regional Framework for Integrated Coastal Zone Management and Conceptual Framework for Marine Spatial Planning	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.23/10
<i>Draft Decision IG.23/8</i>	Updated Action Plan for the Conservation of Marine and Coastal Bird Species listed in Annex II to the Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean - Updated Reference List of Marine and Coastal Habitat Types in the Mediterranean	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.23/11
<i>Draft Decision IG.23/9</i>	Identification and Conservation of Sites of Particular Ecological Interest in the Mediterranean, including Specially Protected Areas of Mediterranean Importance	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.23/12
<i>Draft Decision IG.23/10</i>	Amendments to Annex II to the Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.23/13
<i>Draft Decision IG.23/11</i>	Mediterranean Guide on Cooperation and Mutual Assistance in Responding to Marine Pollution Incidents	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG 23/14

<i>Draft Decision Number</i>	Title of the Draft Decision	Working Document Number
<i>Draft Decision IG.23/12</i>	Updated Guidelines for Regulating the Dumping of Dredged Materials	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.23/15
<i>Draft Decision IG.23/13</i>	Updated Guidelines to Prevent and Abate Pollution from Desalination Activities	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.23/16
<i>Draft Decision IG.23/15</i>	Updated Guidelines for Regulating the Placement of Artificial Reefs at Sea	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.23/21

**Agenda Item 4: Programme of Work and Budget for 2018-2019**

*Working Document: UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.23/17;*

*Information Documents: UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.23/Inf. 3, 5, 6, 16.*

19. The UNEP/MAP Coordinator will present the proposed Programme of Work and Budget for 2018-2019, the mandate, the process of its elaboration under the guidance of the Bureau, its main directions and principles including budgets, as well as the changes introduced following the discussions held at the MAP Focal Points Meeting (12-15 September 2017, Athens, Greece).

20. The Meeting may wish to consider and adopt the relevant draft decision under this agenda item, following the report of the Budget Contact Group mentioned under agenda item 2.4 (d) above.

**Agenda item 5: Ministerial Session**

**5.1 Opening of the session**

21. Statements will be made as follows:

- a) Welcoming address and introductory remarks by H.E. Mr. Blendi Klosi, Minister of Tourism and Environment of Albania, or his representative;
- b) Welcoming address by Mr. Erik Solheim, Executive Director of UNEP, or his representative;
- c) Welcoming remarks by Mr. Gaetano Leone, Coordinator of the UNEP/MAP – Barcelona Convention Secretariat.

**5.2 Report on Activities Carried Out in the Framework of UNEP/MAP since COP 19**

*Working Documents: UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.23/3, 20;*

*Information Documents: UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG. 22/Inf.3-12, 14, 16, 17.*

22. The Meeting has before it documents UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.23/3 “Progress Report by the Secretariat” and UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.23/20 “Statement of Account for the Financial Period, as per Procedure 5.2 of the Financial Rules and Procedures for the Funds of the Barcelona Convention”.

23. The UNEP/MAP Coordinator will introduce both documents, highlighting the main achievements and challenges faced during the last biennium with regards to the implementation of programme of work.

24. The Meeting may wish to acknowledge and comment as necessary on the progress achieved on the implementation of the Programme of Work and Budget adopted by COP 19.

**5.3 Interactive Ministerial Policy Review Session: Implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development with focus on Sustainable Development Goal 14: pollution and biodiversity**

*Working Documents: UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.23/18.*

25. To facilitate the discussion at the Ministerial session, the Meeting has before it document UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.23/18 “*Implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development with focus on Sustainable Development Goal 14: Pollution and Biodiversity*” as Background Note for the Ministerial Discussions.

26. Key note speakers will deliver statements of relevance to the theme of the session, following which the Ministers and Heads of Delegations may make their interventions on the same theme, as presented in the background document UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.23/18.

27. Additional information on the Ministerial Session will be provided at a later stage.

#### **5.4 Istanbul Environment Friendly City Award 2016–2017**

28. The first edition of the “Istanbul Environment Friendly City Award”, established through Decision IG.22/19 adopted at COP 19 (Athens, Greece, 9-12 February 2016), will be conferred to the winning Mediterranean coastal city/town by the President of the Bureau and the Coordinator of UNEP/MAP.

#### **5.5 Tirana Ministerial Declaration**

*Working Documents: UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.23/19.*

29. The Meeting has before it document UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.23/19 “*Draft Tirana Ministerial Declaration*”, which will be introduced by the representative of Albania as Host Country, who has led the process of its preparation.

30. The Meeting will be invited to discuss and adopt the Tirana Ministerial Declaration.

#### **Agenda Item 6: Date and Place of the 21<sup>st</sup> Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties**

*Information Document: UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.23/Inf.13.*

31. The Meeting will be invited to consider the dates and place of the 21<sup>st</sup> Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to be convened in 2017.

32. The Meeting will also take note of the proposed Indicative Calendar of the UNEP/MAP-Barcelona Convention main meetings and other important international events prepared by the Secretariat for information purposes and contained in document UNEP (DEPI) IG.23/Inf.13.

#### **Agenda Item 7: Any Other Business**

33. Participants will be invited to discuss other matters that may require attention of the 20<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Contracting Parties that were raised and agreed upon during the adoption of the provisional agenda.

#### **Agenda Item 8: Adoption of the Report**

*Working Document: UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.23/23.*

34. At its final session, the Meeting will be invited to consider and adopt its Report including the Decisions as prepared by the Rapporteur.

#### **Agenda Item 9: Closure of the Meeting**

35. It is expected that the Meeting will be closed by the President at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, 20 December 2017.

**TIMETABLE**  
**17-20 December 2017**

<b>Sunday, 17 December 2017</b>			
<b>Time</b>	<b>Agenda item</b>		<b>Working Documents</b>
<i>10:00-11:00</i>	<i>Registration</i>		
11:00 – 11:30	1. Opening of the meeting 2. Organizational Matters	President of the Bureau ED UNEP Host Country Minister UNEP/MAP Coordinator	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.23/1; 23/2
11:30 - 12:00	5.5 Tirana Ministerial Declaration	Host Country UNEP/MAP Coordinator	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.23/19
12:00 – 13:00	4. Programme of Work and Budget for 2018-2019	UNEP/MAP Coordinator	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.23/17
13:00-14:00	3. Thematic Decisions: IG.23/1 (Revised Reporting Format) IG.23/2 (Compliance Committee)	UNEP/MAP Coordinator Compliance Committee Chair	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.23/4; 23/5
<i>14:00-16:00</i>	<i>Lunch Break and Side Events</i>		
16:00-19:00	3. Thematic Decisions: IG.23/3 (Governance) IG.23/4 (MSSD/SCP AP) IG.23/5 (Updated RMS) IG.23/6 (2017 MED QSR) IG.23/7 (ICZM/MSP) IG.23/8 (Species/Habitats)	UNEP/MAP Coordinator	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.23/6; 23/7; 23/8; 23/9; 23/10; 23/11; 23/22
<b>Monday, 18 December 2017</b>			
10:00 – 12:30	3. Thematic Decisions: IG.23/9 (SPAMIs) IG.23/10 (Annex II SPA/BD) IG.23/11 (Pollution Incidents) IG.23/12 (Dredged Materials) IG.23/13 (Desalination) IG.23/15 (Artificial Reefs)	UNEP/MAP Coordinator	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.23/12; 23/13; 23/14; 23/15; 23/16; 23/18
12:30-13:00	5.5 Tirana Ministerial Declaration	Host Country UNEP/MAP Coordinator	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.23/19
<i>13:00-15:00</i>	<i>Lunch Break and Side Events</i>		
15:00 – 18:00	4. Programme of Work and Budget for 2018-2019	Chair of the Budget Contact Group UNEP/MAP Coordinator	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.23/17

<b>Tuesday, 19 December 2017 Ministerial Session</b>			
10:00-11:00	5.1 Opening of the Session	Host Country Minister ED UNEP UNEP/MAP Coordinator	
11:00-11:30	5.2 Progress Report on Activities Carried Out in the Framework of UNEP/MAP since COP 19	UNEP/MAP Coordinator	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.23/3; 23/20
11:30– 13:00	5.3 Interactive Ministerial Policy Review Session: Implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development with focus on Sustainable Development Goal 14: pollution and biodiversity	Key Note Speaker(s) Ministers/Heads of Delegation	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.23/18
13:00 – 15:00	<i>Lunch Break and Side Events</i>		
15:00 – 16:30	5.3 <i>Continued</i>	Ministers/Heads of Delegation	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.23/18
16:30 – 17:00	5.4 Istanbul Environment Friendly City Award 2016–2017	President of the Bureau UNEP/MAP Coordinator	
17:00 – 18:00	5.5 Tirana Ministerial Declaration	Ministers/Heads of Delegation	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.23/19
18:30	Reception hosted by the Government of Albania		
<b>Wednesday, 20 December 2017</b>			
15:00 – 15:15	6. Date and place of COP 21 7. Any other business	UNEP/MAP Coordinator	
15:15 – 17:45	8. Adoption of the Report	President of the Bureau Rapporteur	UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.23/23
17:45 – 18:00	9. Closure of COP 20	President of the Bureau	