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Athens, Greece, 9 September 2019

**Agenda Item 6: IMAP Pilot Info System and Related Quality Assurance Issues; Data Standards and Data Dictionaries; MAP Data Management Policy**

**Pave the way towards IMAP Data Policy**

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UNEP/MAP  
Athens, 2019

### **Note by the Secretariat**

A roadmap for the development of a MAP Data Management Policy, through an in-depth discussion with all the components of the MAP system and the Contracting Parties is included in document UNEPMED WG.468/5 “Main Elements and Roadmap for the Preparation of a UN Environment/MAP Data Management Policy” to be discussed by the MAP Focal Points Meeting (10-13 September 2019) and for COP21 consideration and possible approval (Naples, 2-5 December 2019).

In this context a specific data policy for IMAP Infosystem will be developed and implemented. The general framework and the main elements of the policy for data management by MAP and first elements of the IMAP data policy were discussed during the following meetings:

- Ecosystem Approach Correspondence Group on Monitoring (CORMON), Biodiversity and Fisheries (Marseille, France, 12-13 February 2019);
- Ecosystem Approach Correspondence Group on Monitoring (CORMON), Pollution (Podgorica, Montenegro, 2-3 April 2019);
- Ecosystem Approach Correspondence Group on Monitoring (CORMON), Marine Litter (Podgorica, Montenegro, 4-5 April 2019);
- Ecosystem Approach Correspondence Group on Monitoring (CORMON), Biodiversity and Fisheries (Rome, Italy, 21 May 2019);
- Ecosystem Approach Correspondence Group on Monitoring (CORMON), Coast and Hydrography (Rome, Italy, 21-22 May 2019);
- Fourteenth Meeting of MED POL Focal Points (Istanbul, Turkey, 27-29 May 2019);
- Thirteenth Meeting of REMPEC Focal Points (Valletta, Malta 11- 3 June 2019);
- Fourteenth Meeting of SPA/BD Thematic Focal Points (Portorož, Slovenia, 18-21 June 2019).

The document, approved during the INFO/RAC NFPs Meeting (16/17 April 2019), has been further improved in view of the submission to MAP Focal points.

Starting from the general framework and following its approval by COP21, INFO/RAC will develop a complete data management policy in close cooperation with MAP Components and Contracting Parties. The final document will focus mainly on BCRS and IMAP data flows.

## Pave the way towards IMAP Data Policy

### Main elements of IMAP (Pilot) Info System data policy

Based on the outcome of discussions held during CORMONs, the **IMAP (Pilot) Info System** data policy had been agreed to follow the elements described below:

- The principles of the **Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS)**;
- Authentication, Authorization and Accounting;
- IMAP user profile: **CP, CU and MAP components, INFO/RAC, Partners, General public.**
- **Type of data and data products:** reference layers, assessment data, aggregated data, raw data;
- **Accessibility and use of data:** open, sensitive and restricted data;
- Implementation of the **Data Quality Assurance** within IMAP Pilot Info System for each IMAP Common Indicator according and overall 'data quality' that needs to be reported by the Contracting Parties to the Secretariat under IMAP, respectively Level 3 of QA/QC (i.e. based on Quality Controls Categories to estimate the final value of datasets submitted to the Secretariat), as provided in document UNEP/MED WG 467/12;
- **Technical guidance** and in-depth details to facilitate the transition from the monitoring data reporting through the MED POL Metadata Templates, as confirmed by the Meeting of the MED POL Focal Points, Rome, Italy, 29-31 May 2017, to the monitoring data reporting based on Data Standards and Data Dictionaries that are built in the new IMAP (Pilot) Info System.

In particular, the following **USER PROFILES** for the **IMAP (Pilot) Info System** have been agreed:

**CP:** Contracting Parties, MAP Components' Focal Points, National Experts

As a rule, a single user as "CP" is provided for each Country. Additional users (FPs, NEs) can be requested.

The CP profile has followings rights:

- Download of Data Standards and Data Dictionaries;
- Upload monitoring data compliant to Data Standards;
- **Compliance check** on data uploaded in the system;
- Consistency check (**Validation**) on data uploaded in the system;
- Access and download of data (**belonging only to its own Country**) uploaded to the system;
- Access and download of informative documents, compilation guides, methods etc.;

**MAP:** MAP Coordinating Unit and MAP Components

The **MAP** Profile has followings rights:

- Download of Data Standards and Data Dictionaries;
- Access and download of data (all Countries data) uploaded to the system;
- Access, download and upload of informative documents, compilation guides, methods etc.;

**INFO:** INFO/RAC

The INFO/RAC profile has following rights:

- Perform any function available on the system and is responsible for managing users (create/delete users with username and password) for all profiles, including ADMINISTRATOR profile.

- Upload, modify and delete: Data Standards, Data Dictionaries, Background and reference documents, Manuals and guidelines
- View and manage all kind of data.
- Publish data according to CPs official decisions.

**Partner:** MAP Partners, Stakeholders and other Regional Institutions with the specific authorization of MAP CU

The Partner profile has following rights:

- Download of Data Standards and Data Dictionaries;
- Access and download to validated data uploaded to the system, according to specific authorization provided by MAP CU;
- Access and download of informative documents, compilation guides, methods etc.;
- No changes are allowed.

**Public:** Citizens, general public

The Public profile has following rights:

- Access to published data and information (no credentials);
- Download of Data Standards and Data Dictionaries;
- View reference layers and aggregated data displayed on geoviewer
- View and download of background and reference documents

The USERS' credentials, as in the presented scheme, will be active in the IMAP (Pilot) Info System starting from the Testing Phase (May 2019). According to the further development of the system and incoming needs of MAP network, they will be updated in the second Phase of IMAP Info System implementation.

A first proposal about the management of collected monitoring data has been provided for the period 2019-2021.

The “**minimum scenario**” to be assured (from now to the end of next biennium) is the following:

- i. First step:** each Contracting Party has free access to only its data, and no data are available to be shown as public to a general audience.
- ii. 2019 (starting from July):** initial step could be followed by publishing reference layers at level of Mediterranean basin as official coastline, delimitation of territorial waters, economic exclusive zones, ecological protected zones.
- iii. 2020:** a set of validated data accessible at the regional level (all CPs can visualize assessment products of data referred to the whole Mediterranean basin);
- iv. 2021:** a set of aggregated data at the level of Mediterranean Sea publicly accessible.