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## MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN

Meeting of the National Focal Points  
for Specially Protected Areas in the  
Mediterranean  
Athens, 26-30 October 1992  
including joint consultation concerning  
the conservation of cetaceans in the  
Mediterranean and the Black sea  
Athens 26-27 October 1992

Experts meeting on environmental  
legislation - 1993.  
(provisionnal programme).

**NOTE ON THE PROVISIONAL PROGRAM OF  
THE MEETING OF EXPERTS ON ENVIRONMENTAL LEGISLATION  
CONCERNING SPECIALLY PROTECTED AREAS AND ENDANGERED SPECIES.**

**1. Background**

According to the decisions of the Contracting Parties for the biennium 1992-1993 (Seventh Ordinary Meeting, Cairo, 8-11 October 1991, UNEP (OCA)/MED IG. 2/4), the Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Areas (RAC/SPA) has to organize in 1993 a meeting of experts on environmental legislation concerning Specially Protected Areas and Endangered Species.

In addition, the article 17 of the Protocol concerning Mediterranean Specially Protected Areas recommends to the Parties:

- "a) to keep under review the implementation of this Protocol;
- b) to consider the efficacy of the measures adopted, ..., and to examine the need for other measures, in particular in the form of annexes, ...
- c) to adopt, review and amend as required any annex to this Protocol".

**2. Activities developed by the RAC/SPA**

Since 1987, RAC/SPA has collected information and documentation on environmental legislation relevant for the implementation of the SPA Protocol. This has conducted to the preparation of the Draft directory of environmental legislation in the Mediterranean region and to a document entitled: Mediterranean protected areas. Analytic Study of the relevant legislation. (December 1991). These two documents have been sent to the National Focal points for revision, comments and additions.

In addition, the RAC/SPA is, in collaboration with the Environmental Law Centre, preparing synthesis on the legislation applicable for the protection of endangered species.

Furthermore, a comparative analysis on the efficacy of the SPA Protocol of the Mediterranean Action Plan (Geneva, 1982) and of the equivalent Protocol for the Caribbean Environment Programme (CEP) (Kingston, 1990) shows notable difference between the two protocols that are summarized in the following table:

SUBJECT	GENEVA-MEDITERRANEAN SEA	KINGSTON-CARIBBEAN SEA
Protected areas and species	only protected areas	protected areas and species
List of protected areas	directory open: inscription of the sites decided by the countries	list of sites accepted (criteria for inscription/radiation) by the Contracting Parties
Area covered	terrestrial and marine coastal zones (territorial waters only)	watershed basins, marine waters (territorial waters and EEZ)
Limitation of projects and activities	regulation of certain activities	obligation of limitation if dangerous for the conservation
Introduction of species	no mention	necessary regulation
Environmental impact assessment	no mention	necessary if possible effect

Table showing the most important differences between Mediterranean (Geneva) and Caribbean (Kingston) Protocols.

### 3. Possible programme for the expert meeting

According to the activities developed by the RAC/SPA, the programme of the meeting of experts on environmental legislation concerning Specially Protected Areas and Endangered Species could cover the following points:

- Revision and further elaboration of the Directory of the existing environmental legislation.
- Revision of the national legislation dealing with endangered species.
- Analysis of the existing legislation for protected areas and endangered species and of their efficacy for the implementation of the SPA Protocol.
- Analysis of the efficacy of the SPA Protocol, comparison with the other existing instrument and proposals for amelioration of the SPA Protocol (annexes).