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MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN

Meeting of the National Focal Points for
Priority Actions Programme (PAP)

Athens, November 23-25, 1992

REPORT
OF THE MEETING OF THE NATIONAL FOCAL POINTS FOR
PRIORITY ACTIONS PROGRAMME (PAP)

UNEP

Athens, 1992

Introduction

1. The Seventh Ordinary Conference of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution and its related protocols, held in Cairo on October 8-11, 1991, recommended that a meeting of the National Focal Points for the Priority Actions Programme be convened in 1992.
2. In conformity with the above recommendation, the Meeting of the National Focal Points for the Priority Actions Programme was convened on November 23-25, 1992, in Athens, in the premises of the Coordinating Unit of the Mediterranean Action Plan.
3. The main objectives of the meeting were:
 - a) to examine and evaluate the implementation of PAP in the period 1990-1992;
 - b) to discuss and formulate proposals for the implementation of the programme until the end of 1993;
 - c) to draft orientations for the concept of PAP activities for the period 1994-1995.

Participation

4. All National Focal Points for PAP were invited to participate in the meeting, as well as relevant United Nations agencies.
5. The meeting was attended by the representatives of the following Contracting Parties: Albania, Cyprus, Egypt, France, Greece, Israel, Italy, Libya, Malta, Monaco, Morocco, Spain, Tunisia, and Turkey. The Republic of Croatia was represented by an observer. The representatives of the MAP Coordinating Unit, FAO, WHO and DHA-UNDRO also attended the meeting.
6. The complete list of participants is attached as Annex I to this report.

Agenda item 1 - Opening of the meeting

7. The meeting was opened by Mr. S. Busuttil, Coordinator of MAP, who welcomed the participants, wishing them a pleasant stay in Athens and fruitful work in the meeting. He also welcomed the representative of Croatia who attended the meeting as observer. He then informed the participants that the Bureau of MAP had decided to organize an expert meeting to discuss Mediterranean aspects of Agenda 21 of the UNCED conference in Rio. The Government of Malta offered to host the meeting scheduled for February 1993.

8. Mr. A. Pavasovic, Director of PAP/RAC, greeted the participants on behalf of the Centre and expert consultants and institutions participating in the implementation of PAP. He reminded the participants that this was the 9th Meeting of the National Focal Points of PAP (two were organized as PAP NFP meetings, two were organized jointly with the NFPs for the Blue Plan, and four as meetings of the socio-economic or joint MAP committees). The objectives of the present meeting were: to review the activities implemented in 1991-92; to make suggestions for their implementation for the rest of 1992 and for 1993; and to formulate orientations for the preparation of proposals for the 1994-95 workplan. With regard to the structure of PAP, he explained, the activities would be presented in 3 groups, namely: (a) integrated planning and management of coastal zones and PAP involvement in CAMPs; (b) cooperative projects (on water resources management, soil erosion, and seismic risk reduction; and (c) individual priority actions. Also, due to the fact that several Focal Points had joined PAP only recently, the achievements of PAP in the periods 1983-89 and 1990-91 would be briefly presented. Finally, he pointed out that the programme and its implementation were based on the deliberations of the relevant Contracting Parties meetings, and conceived according to the Genoa Declaration and the Nicosia Charter. Such an approach led to gradual merging of some individual priority actions into integrated coastal zone management. Recent development, including the results of the Rio Conference (particularly Agenda 21, Chapter 17), and the Mediterranean Charter for Water, seemed to fully justify such an orientation.

Agenda item 2 - Rules of procedure

9. The meeting noted that the rules of procedure for the meeting and conferences of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution and its related protocols (UNEP/IG.43/6 Annex XI) would apply *mutatis mutandis* to the meeting.

Agenda item 3 - Election of officers

10. The meeting elected the following officers:

Chairman:	Mr. D. Tsotsos (Greece)
Vice-Chairman:	Ms. I. Paillet (France)
Vice-Chairman:	Mr. M. El-Raey (Egypt)
Rapporteur:	Mr. E. Scicluna (Malta)

Mr. I. Trumbic (PAP/RAC) was nominated secretary of the meeting.

11. Mr. Tsotsos thanked the participants for his election as Chairman and asked them to contribute to the work of the meeting by concise and constructive interventions. He congratulated PAP/RAC on the hitherto implementation of the programme, and, in his role of representative of Greece, on its activities within the CAMP "The Island of Rhodes".

Agenda item 4 - Adoption of the agenda

12. The Director of PAP/RAC briefly presented the tentative agenda and annotated tentative agenda given in the documents UNEP(OCA)/MED/WG.38/1 and UNEP(OCA)/MED/WG.38/22, respectively.

13. The meeting adopted the agenda as given in Annex II to this report, while the list of documents is attached as Annex III.

Agenda item 5 - Brief review of PAP development in 1983-91

14. The Director of PAP/RAC presented a brief review of PAP development in the period 1983-1991, as given in detail in the papers UNEP(OCA)/MED/WG.38/Info.1 and Info.2. After the fields of activity, methods of work, and terms of reference had been defined, and adequate financial conditions created in the initial phase (1979-82), the concrete activities of PAP started in 1983, after the Third Ordinary Conference of the Contracting Parties held in Dubrovnik. In the period 1984-86, a total of 10 individual priority actions were launched within 6 priority fields as defined by the Contracting Parties. A network of National Focal Points was established, representatives of the countries were nominated to participate in the priority actions, and the first phase of programme implementation started. That phase was aimed at fact-finding activities through the preparation of national reports, organization of expert meetings and seminars, and preparation of a number of case-studies within each priority action.

15. The second phase of PAP activities started in 1986, aimed at the preparation of specific in-depth studies, development of methodological approaches, and launching of training activities. Within some actions, the need and possibility of formulating specific cooperative projects were identified. Consequently, proposals were prepared for such projects to deal with reduction of seismic risk, aquaculture, and soil protection against erosion. PAP noted the expressed wish for introducing forms of cooperation in selected coastal areas. This resulted in the preparation of pilot projects for the Syrian coastal region, the Izmir Bay, the island of Rhodes, and the Kastela Bay.

16. The implementation of the third phase started in 1987-88. The cooperative project of seismic risk reduction was prepared with financial support from Italy, and the cooperative project of mapping and monitoring of soil erosion processes with financial support from Spain. The implementation of all 4 pilot projects in selected coastal areas was launched, and, in cooperation with specialized international organizations, training courses started on the application of renewable sources of energy, liquid waste management, and water resources management. In cooperation with OCA/PAC, Nairobi, a practical procedure for the application of EIA, and a number of pilot EIAs were prepared. National training courses on EIA were initiated.

17. In 1989, the Contracting Parties approved a refocusing of MAP on integrated coastal zone management. Accordingly, the pilot projects implemented in selected coastal areas were transformed into MAP Coastal Areas Management Programme (CAMP) to enjoy the participation of all MAP components.

18. The catalytic effect of PAP was particularly evident in the third phase. A network of over 600 experts from all Mediterranean countries was established, as well as cooperation with relevant UN agencies and more than 50 other international and national institutions.

19. Some participants asked the Director of PAP to present in greater detail the implementation of individual priority actions, and to provide additional information on the cooperative projects on soil erosion, seismic risk reduction and aquaculture, as well as on cooperation with the Blue Plan and on the PAP Budget.

20. The Director of PAP/RAC explained that the replies to requests regarding individual actions and projects would be given within other agenda items. Speaking of the Blue Plan, he pointed out the traditionally good cooperation and coordination of activities of the two RACs, as well as a regular exchange of information and documents. The action on coast-hinterland interrelations, launched by PAP in 1985, was terminated in 1987 by a decision of the National Focal Points Meeting, while its results were used in integrated planning. With regard to tourism, he explained that the Blue Plan and PAP actions were implemented at different levels, and that rather than overlapping, they supplemented each other. PAP was gradually turning its attention to the Carrying Capacity Assessment of tourist activities, considering it a very important tool of coastal zone management. The required information on the PAP Budget was disseminated to the participants as a separate document.

21. Upon request by some participants, the Director of PAP/RAC commented briefly on the implementation of the individual priority actions and presented the situation as it was in the beginning of 1992. A more detailed presentation will be given within the agenda item 6.

22. In the discussion that followed, the participants asked for more information regarding the results and the concept of future implementation of the Environmental Impact Assessment priority action. They suggested that the follow-up should include the organization of an appropriate computer support, as well as the preparation of guidelines for more detailed studies and projects.

23. Some participants raised the question of the future orientation of the priority action on the protection of historic settlements, especially with regard to the coordination of activities in view of the fragmentation and distribution of tasks between PAP, the Marseille Centre and SPA.

24. Another important issue pointed out was the need of a stronger development of the activities relative to GIS and other tools and techniques of integrated coastal zone management, especially those related to economic instruments of coastal management.

25. Several participants commented on the fact that some of the PAP documents had been prepared only in English, pointing out the need of preparing all important documents also in French. One participant raised the problem of postal delivery, which was beyond PAP control. However, attempts should be made to overcome this problem.

26. Apart from organizing training activities and implementing pilot projects, the participants stressed the need for PAP to provide assistance to national and local institutions in the use of results and gained experience.

27. Upon the inquiry of a participant on the working conditions of PAP/RAC and possible difficulties in the implementation of the programme due to the situation in the host-country, the Director of PAP/RAC informed the meeting that since the end of 1991, the Centre had been working under entirely normal conditions. In mid 1991, there were certain problems relative to traveling due to the fact that all Croatian airports had been closed, but telephone and other communications were satisfactory owing to special measures taken by the Government in order to enable normal functioning of PAP/RAC. Not once during that period had there been difficulties with the local bank. Finally, he thanked the Croatian Government and the Ministry of the Environment for their support and assistance in securing normal working conditions.

28. Addressing the meeting in his role of observer, the representative of Croatia expressed satisfaction with the fact that the Bureau of MAP had authorized the participation of Croatia as observer in MAP activities. He informed the participants that Croatia had submitted a request for joining MAP, and that the relevant procedure was in course. He declared the readiness of his Government to fully accept all the liabilities resulting from MAP membership. He also stated that Croatia, as one of successors to the former Yugoslavia, was willing to take over all obligations relative to PAP/RAC. He pointed out the satisfaction of the Croatian Government with the activities of the Centre, as well as the interest and need of Croatia to cooperate with MAP in the protection of coastal zones, especially through the application of principles of integrated planning and management oriented to sustainable development.

29. The participants expressed their satisfaction with the hitherto implementation of PAP activities.

Agenda item 6 - Report on the implementation of PAP in 1992, and actions scheduled for 1993:

Agenda item 6.1 - Integrated planning and management of Mediterranean coastal zones and PAP involvement in MAP CAMPS

30. Mr. I. Trumbic, Assistant Director of PAP/RAC for integrated planning, presented the basic objectives of the priority action "Integrated Planning and Management of Mediterranean Coastal Areas" and the Coastal Areas Management Programme (CAMP), as well as the results of PAP achieved in the period 1990-92.

31. Within the priority action "Integrated Planning and Management of Mediterranean Coastal Areas", work was continued on the development of tools and techniques (GIS, EIA, Carrying Capacity Assessment for tourism, HARM, Multicriterial analysis). Those tools and techniques were tested in practice within the on-going CAMPS. Training programmes on and applications of GIS, implemented with precious help by UNEP-GRID, UNITAR and ESRI, reached full affirmation. Work started on the analysis of a number of issues which were gaining in importance: institutional arrangements, and use of economic instruments. The objective of these activities was to prepare practical guidelines for the application of acquired knowledge in selected Mediterranean areas. In cooperation with OCA/PAC, preparation started of "Guidelines for Integrated Coastal Zone Management". That document constitutes a revision of the methodological framework used hitherto in field work, based on the experience gained within CAMPS.

32. Most of PAP activities envisaged by agreements for the implementation of CAMPS were completed or will be completed soon, except for the activities which could not be started before outside financing (World Bank, European Investment Bank) was secured. PAP activities within the CAMPS "The Kastela Bay and "Syrian Coastal Region" were mostly completed, while those in "The Bay of Izmir" and "The Island of Rhodes" CAMPS will be completed in 1993. All PAP activities were implemented by task teams consisting of local and national experts, and consultants engaged by PAP. Each local/national team first passed through a phase of training in order to get acquainted with the latest achievements and experience in various thematic fields. The PAP experts were from Mediterranean countries, nominated by the National Focal Points. Details of implementation of individual activities are presented in documents UNEP(OCA)/MED/WG.38/4.1 and UNEP(OCA)/MED/WG.38/Info.3.

33. Proposals resulting from the implementation of various activities within "The Kastela Bay" and "The Syrian Coastal Region" CAMPS were already being applied in practice. A basis has been set up for the process of integrated planning and management of coastal areas. Through training courses and practical experience in the implementation of activities ("on-the-job" training) institutional capacity building was achieved. Some of the proposals contained in

planning and management documents were already applied for tackling most urgent problems.

34. The Coordinator of MAP expressed the opinion that PAP involvement in CAMPs was one of the most important and most successful activities, on which PAP/RAC should be congratulated. However, after the Rio Conference, the need appeared to reconsider the entire concept of MAP CAMPs in order to improve their contents, coordination and implementation. For this purpose, he and the directors of the regional centres would shortly be making an overall assessment of the work on CAMP projects.

35. The representative of Turkey declared that she was very satisfied with the implementation of the CAMP "The Izmir Bay". The main objective of the present phase of the CAMP implementation was to secure integration of all planning and management activities in the area, and to install the process of integrated planning. The recent workshop organized in Izmir was a success. Its objective was to present the achievements and to indicate the main problems, such as those relative to institutional arrangement, cooperation of national and local institutions, and their involvement in some priority topics. However, further actions would require a considerable involvement of PAP in 1993, especially the assessment of impacts of discharge into the Bay of treated urban waste waters through a submarine outfall, the improvement of institutional arrangements, and the preparation of the planning document. She also informed the meeting of the intention of the Turkish Government to present a proposal for the development of the GIS database established within the Izmir CAMP, through the METAP programme. Finally, she expressed her conviction that the results of "The Izmir Bay" CAMP would be an excellent model for other areas in the region.

36. The other Turkish representative, in his role as the local head of the Izmir CAMP team, greeted the meeting on behalf of Mr. Y. Cakmur, Mayor of Izmir, and conveyed his satisfaction with the hitherto results of the PAP involvement in the CAMP. Mr. Cakmur had also expressed a wish of the Metropolitan Municipality of Izmir to continue and successfully conclude that activity. The Turkish representative pointed out the importance of training in, and practical applications of GIS implemented by PAP experts. This has resulted in the establishment of a permanent team within the Municipality which has continued to work on the development of the GIS database for Izmir. Also, the Planning Division of the Municipality was oriented to the preparation of the integrated development programme of Izmir. All those activities have acquired an explicit environmental orientation.

37. A participant declared his satisfaction with the results achieved within the CAMP "The Izmir Bay". However, he pointed out that the main weak point of that and all other on-going CAMPs was insufficient funds. In his opinion, a relatively modest increase of the budget would enable achieving much better effects.

38. Upon the request of the Chairman, the representative of Croatia commented on the results of the CAMP "The Kastela Bay". From the very beginning, the action was of a practical nature. Thus, already in the preparatory phase, a considerable experience was gained in the formulation of projects intended for international financing. Several CAMP activities were aimed at the preparation of the project "Urban Liquid Waste Collection, Treatment and Disposal of the Split-Kastela Area", while the two activities dealing with the issues of water resources management were used in the preparation of the programmes of water supply of the western part of the area and of two near-by islands. Training programme on GIS resulted in the establishment of GIS database for the entire area. The overall experience gained in the implementation of the programme will be used for the formulation of a proposal of a programme of integrated management of the Adriatic area, planned to be implemented in cooperation with Italy, Slovenia and Bosnia and Herzegovina.

39. A PAP consultant, in his role of the head of the joint PAP/Syrian team working within the CAMP "The syrian Coastal Region", commented on the implementation of that CAMP. He informed the meeting that first an integrated planning study had been prepared, and later the Coastal Resources Master Plan. That plan was presented to the Syrian national and local authorities which adopted it as the basis for further activities on coastal zone planning and management. Some of the recommendations contained in that plan have already been implemented, such as the protection of a dune area of special environmental value, and the establishment of a committee for coastal zone management which should integrate the activities of all relevant authorities. He also expressed his satisfaction with the training on GIS and the practical applications, which resulted in the establishment of a national team which should continue dealing with that activity. Furthermore, the prepared EIA of the Amrit tourist complex and the related training, created the necessary conditions for the establishment of a team within the Ministry of the Environment, which inaugurated the practice of preparing EIAs for all significant projects in the country. Finally, he pointed out the need of securing the continuation of PAP involvement in the CAMP, especially in the part regarding the establishment of GIS database for Damascus and Banyas, as well as in the follow up of the activity on EIA.

40. The Chairman, in his role of the representative of Greece, commented on the results of the CAMP "The Island of Rhodes" which, in his opinion, had a real practical value. He pointed out that in the implementation of the CAMP, an excellent cooperation had been established between PAP and the local and national institutions. Some activities had either been completed or were nearing completion. However, other activities such as the water resources master plan and liquid waste management were merely at the beginning, because the funds needed for their implementation and which had to be provided by the European Investment Bank were still not available. With regard to the cooperation with the local authorities, he expressed the opinion that by this exercise they

are offered a new approach to coastal zone management based on the principles of integrated planning and environmentally sound management oriented to sustainable development.

41. A participant was of the opinion that, presenting a wide spectrum of activities and tools, PAP ran the risk of failing to offer to the local authorities adequate solutions of the most important problems. In the future, attention should be paid to this problem. Also, within CAMPs, the local authorities should be offered criteria and standards by means of which they would be able to monitor the results obtained through the implementation of the CAMP. He suggested that future CAMPs should lead to less diversified programmes which would also be better adapted to the needs of the local authorities.

42. A participant was of the opinion that the results of the on-going CAMPs were quite satisfactory, but pointed out the need of providing for a MAP experts to stay at each CAMP site over longer periods in order to secure a better coordination and implementation of those programmes.

43. The representative of Israel stressed the need of approaching the formulation and implementation of CAMPs more flexibly, bearing in mind the specific national and local conditions and priorities. At that, a special attention should be paid to the need for more specialized programmes, introduction of new technologies, and spreading of new ideas. She informed the meeting that the Israeli Government intended to request that a CAMP proposal be formulated for her country.

44. A participant pointed out that care should be taken not to use over-sophisticated techniques. Also, monitoring of the achieved results should be envisaged, as well as a follow up which would secure continuation of cooperation after a CAMP has been concluded. She was also of the opinion that in the preparation of CAMPs, the receiving capacity of national and local institutions should be taken into consideration, that monitoring of the results should be envisaged, and that CAMPs should be more oriented to the management process. These recommendations were supported by a number of other participants.

45. A participant noted that a strong point of PAP was its ability to engage the best available expertise in the Mediterranean region, as well as its knowledge of the conditions prevailing in the region. The objective of PAP should be to identify the most advanced knowledge and expertise and apply it to the Mediterranean conditions.

46. The representative of Albania informed the meeting on the preparatory activities for the formulation of the "Albania" CAMP which was more complex than the on-going ones. He expressed his concern regarding the capability of the national and local authorities to implement such a programme satisfactorily.

47. Mr. L. Jeftic, responsible MAP officer for that CAMP, informed the meeting that negotiations on the contents of the CAMP were still in course, and that the process involved, apart from the Albanian authorities, the representatives of the European Community, the World Bank, the European Investment Bank, and ICOMAS. The programme should be focused on the achievement of a sustainable development, and particularly on the development of agriculture and tourism. For the activity regarding the seismic risk reduction, a preliminary agreement was reached with the Council of Europe to implement an impressive programme for which considerable funds would be approved. The contract for the implementation of that project should be signed in the beginning of 1993. He also informed the meeting that Albania, along with 3 other Mediterranean countries, would be included in the implementation of the programme envisaged by the Charter of Nicosia.

48. The Director of PAP/RAC thanked the participants for their contributions to the discussion, and commented on some of the suggestions. He pointed out that ever since the beginning of its involvement in CAMPS, PAP had attempted to define precise objectives of each individual activity through direct contacts with national and local authorities as end users. In the formulation of the on-going programmes, a flexible approach was applied, so that each CAMP is different from the others. Attention was also paid to the local conditions and capabilities of the local experts and institutions. Objectives of each activity were to be reached through cooperation between local and international experts following the principles of on-the-job training, strengthening gradually the local capabilities. Such an approach enable the application of tools and techniques which were not over-sophisticated, as confirmed by the results achieved by the local and national teams. He agreed with the suggestion that in the future more attention be paid to the management component, training of experts, and transfer of information to decision-makers, professionals, and the general public. He particularly stressed the importance and usefulness of a close cooperation with international institutions and UN agencies which also have the latest knowledge and experience in the fields. Finally, he expressed his opinion that future programmes should be simpler and focused on the most important problems, that a better coordination and timing has to be achieved between various MAP components, that in the initial phase, stress should be placed on training and data collection, and that the monitoring component should be envisaged. Results of all individual activities should be summarized in a final report to be presented to decision-makers, professionals and the general public. The objective of each CAMP project should be the establishment of a process, rather than the preparation of documents.

Agenda item 6.2 - Cooperative projects on: water resources management, soil erosion, seismic risk mitigation

49. The Director of PAP/RAC presented the documents UNEP(OCA)/MED/WG.38/4.2 and UNEP(OCA)/MED/WG.38/Info.4 relative to water resources management. He informed the meeting that, after the

fact-finding phase had been concluded in the previous period, within which a number of seminars were organized and numerous case-studies prepared, the PAP activity in this field was focused on the cooperation with the authorities and institutions of Malta. A proposal was prepared of a project of water resources management for the island of Malta, which was launched with financial support by EEC. In 1992, this project was concluded, and the proposal was prepared of a project of water resources conservation. Two training courses were also organized: on database for water resources management, and on modelling of aquifers.

50. Within this activity, a close cooperation was achieved with FAO, OIE (Office international de l'eau, Marseilles), IME (Institut méditerranéen de l'eau, Marseille), and BRGM (Bureau de recherches géologiques et minières, Orleans).

51. From the point of view of PAP, the most important results of the Maltese project implemented by BRGM are: direct benefits for the Maltese Government in the field of management of the island's water resources; an important scientific and professional basis was created for water resources management; experience gained by the national experts and PAP during the implementation of the project; up-graded capacity of the national institutions for the implementation of the water resources management process; applicability of the achieved results in the process of training and exchange of experience at the Mediterranean level.

52. The achieved results and the activities in course made a solid basis for launching a long-term activity in the field of water resources management, so a proposal was prepared for the establishment of a training programme on water resources management in Malta. Commenting on that proposal, he pointed out that no new institutions or special administrative or professional structures were planned to be established, but only a separate programme which would use the existing infrastructure and institutions.

53. The Coordinator of MAP expressed the opinion that within the framework of MAP the solution of problems of water resources management should be given top priority, and congratulated PAP/RAC on its results in this field. He informed the meeting that a ministerial conference on water resources management held recently in Rome concluded, among others, that training activities should be given a particular attention. He also informed the participants that the programme of the CEDARE centre, recently established in Cairo, included that field as one of top priorities. The Coordinator further pointed out that it was the intention to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding between CEDARE and MAP.

54. The representative of Malta expressed his satisfaction with the hitherto implementation of the project pointing it out as a good example of PAP's catalytic activity. The results of that project include a management model offering the decision-makers a good basis for defining appropriate policies. Among others, the Government of Malta established a special agency (Water Services Corporation) for

water resources management through the application of principles of the market economy.

55. In the discussion that followed, a number of participants expressed their satisfaction with the achieved results. They also made suggestions regarding the formulation of the programme for the next period. Generally, the need was pointed out of: taking into consideration the problems of water resources management in other geological conditions as well; paying a particular attention to raising, at all levels, of the awareness of how insufficient and how expensive water is; examining the possibility of linking the activity on aquifer modelling and management with other programmes, especially those dealing with water reuse, protection of aquifers against pollution, recovery of polluted aquifers, and water conservation. It was particularly stressed that the relevant results of the Blue Plan should be taken into consideration, as well as the programme and achievements of the International hydrological Programme (IHP), as one of fundamental UN programmes in this domain. PAP should try to define specific fields of activity within IHP, bearing in mind the specific aspects of the protection of water resources against pollution and their rational use, especially in dry zones.

56. A number of participants supported the proposal of organizing a permanent training centre in Malta, although recommending that no additional institutional or administrative structures be established. However, upon intervention of several other participants, it was pointed out that the meeting should not make any decisions or recommendations regarding the institutional aspects, and that all possible options should be examined.

57. Mr. J-C. Griesbach (FAO) presented briefly the results of the Pilot Project on Soil Erosion Mapping and Measurement in the Mediterranean Coastal Zone which are described in detail in the document UNEP(OCA)/MED/WG.38/4.3. That project has focused on coastal areas where soil exploitation has always been intensive. Soil erosion and degradation of soil were felt very early, and the need appeared of inventorying and assessing both the resources and their constraints. Very different approaches to soil survey were used, some descriptive and others more synthetic. The same differences were reflected in soil erosion assessments. Therefore, the main objective of the PAP project was to come to a common approach and to standardized mapping and measurement criteria and methods. The combination of the ICONA systematic approach and the FAO proposal of more qualitative surveys addressed that vital issue, allowing for the programme to prepare maps of man- and rainfall-induced erosion, which might provide basic reference data for planning of both prevention and curative measures, to be applied in all Mediterranean coastal areas.

58. The Director of PAP/RAC pointed out that this project had been implemented according to decisions of the Contracting Parties Conferences of 1987 and 1989, that its objectives had been to create

a methodological and programme basis for the mitigation of erosion processes, and that the project had been implemented with a considerable scientific and professional support by FAO, the Spanish Government, ICONA as implementing institution, and Tunisian and Turkish authorities and institutions. With regard to the fact that the methodologies of erosion mapping and monitoring used in various Mediterranean countries were very different and impossible to correlate, one of the objectives of the project was to develop and test a common methodology applicable in all Mediterranean countries. The Director of PAP/RAC expressed his opinion that the results of the project confirmed that those objectives had been reached, which should be discussed in a workshop scheduled for the week after. In 1993 the monitoring phase has to be completed and final reports prepared. Concerning the follow up of the project, he proposed either to repeat the same exercise in 3-4 new countries, or, to prepare a proposal of a larger project to be submitted to UNDP, as planned earlier.

59. The representative of Tunisia suggested that a future development of the project could include the establishment of a soil degradation monitoring system at the Mediterranean level.

60. The representative of Morocco expressed his regret that a series of unfavourable circumstances hindered the implementation of the project of studying soil erosion initiated by PAP/RAC in the coastal zone of Al Hoceima. However, he pointed out that his country would like to carry on with the implementation of that project if it is technically feasible. In any case, Morocco is willing to participate if the same exercise is repeated in other Mediterranean countries.

61. In the discussion that followed, a number of participants showed their interest in the results of the project. The representative of Cyprus stated the interest of his country to take part in the follow-up of the action. It was suggested that possibilities be examined of including into the project the problems relative to salinization and sand encroachment. A question was raised whether, and in which way, care was taken of the impact of nutrients on the soil and underground aquifers. It was particularly stressed that the focus of the programme in the period 1994-96 should be on the management component, and that it was necessary to prepare a practical and relatively simple document to serve as guidelines and instructions for monitoring actual and potential soil erosion. Such an approach would raise decision-makers' awareness of the problem, as well as provide tools for the mitigation of negative effects. The need was also mentioned of examining the possibility of developing a method which would enable a reliable quantification of erosion processes.

62. Mr. L. Van Essche (DHA-UNDRO) presented the results of the cooperative project on seismic risk reduction in the Mediterranean (UNEP(OCA)/MED/WG.38/4.4), which was launched within the PAP action "Land-Use Planning in Earthquake Zones", and executed as a UNDP-OPS

project with large financial support by the Italian Government, and UNDRO as implementing agency. He pointed out the significance of seismic risk reduction for the protection of the natural and built environment of Mediterranean coastal zones, and the fact that there was a large experience and highly developed knowledge in that field which, unfortunately, was not yet adequately applied in seismically active zones. Commenting on the results of the project, he pointed to the possibility and need of their use in planning and management of coastal zones. He expressed his conviction that PAP, which actively participated in the preparation and implementation of the project, would be able to introduce its results into the activities on coastal zone management. Finally, he expressed the wish that PAP and MAP would lend their support to the formulation and preparation of follow-up activities of the project.

63. The Chairman requested that a change be made to the document UNEP(OCA)/MED/WG.38/4.4, prepared by DHA-UNDRO. On page 10, paragraph 2, it should read "Ohrid (former Yugoslavia)". The meeting agreed to this change and PAP will re-issue the document.

64. Mr. I. Dharat, Senior Programme Officer, MAP, informed the meeting of the newly established European Centre on Prevention and Forecasting of Earthquakes (E.C.P.F.E.) in Athens, Greece. He pointed out that the European Centre was a non-profit organization established under the Greek Law within the framework of the Open Partial Agreement of the Council of Europe, on the prevention of, protection against and organization of relief in major natural and technological disasters. Its main objective is to undertake research on the prediction of earthquakes, minimizing casualties and damage, and civilian training. The Centre is composed of an Administrative Council, a Scientific Committee, and a Secretariat. The Greek Government has nominated Professor S. Busuttil, MAP Coordinator, as one of seven members of the Administrative Council. Mr. Dharat also informed the meeting that the First Meeting of the Administrative Council was held on November 20, 1992, during which the Council was informed of projects being implemented within the framework of MAP/PAP (Land-Use Planning in Earthquake Zones and SEISMED). The Administrative Council of E.C.P.F.E. accepted MAP proposal for including an element of Mediterranean cooperation within the framework of the By-law of the Centre and within its programme for 1993-1994.

65. Commenting on the presentation by Mr. Van Essche, the Director of PAP/RAC expressed his satisfaction with the hitherto results. With regard to the importance of seismic risk in the majority of Mediterranean coastal zones, he stated the opinion that it would be of interest for MAP and PAP to participate also in the following phase of the project. He also pointed out the need of joining the project already in the formulation phase of the programme which should envisage, among others, field work in the areas hosting CAMPS, as well as other areas of interest for MAP.

66. The representative of Italy, which provided a considerable financial and logistic support to the SEISMED project, stressed that in the follow up of that action greater attention should be paid to the reduction of seismic risk at historic sites.

67. In the discussion that followed, a participant expressed the opinion that the component of seismic risk assessment should be included in all MAP CAMPS.

Agenda item 6.3 - Individual priority actions

68. The Director of PAP/RAC presented a brief review of the implementation of the other priority actions, namely: Rehabilitation and Reconstruction of Mediterranean Historic Settlements, Solid and Liquid Waste Management, Development of Mediterranean Tourism in Harmony with the Environment, Aquaculture, and Renewable Sources of Energy, given in greater detail in the document UNEP(OCA)/MED/WG.38/4.5

69. Presenting the concept and strategy of implementation of those actions, he stressed the gradual approach: starting from the fact-finding phase, through the phase of preparation of in-depth studies and methodological documents, to practical application of achieved results. As an important element of the implementation of those actions, he pointed out the training component which was based, in the beginning, on the organization of regional training courses, but later, it was more oriented to the organization of national courses which proved more cost effective and productive.

70. Commenting on the results and programme of the action relative to historic settlements, he pointed out that through several seminars and a large number of case-studies prepared over the past 5 years, a programme was completed for the development of methodological phases of the procedure of protection of protection of historic settlements, to be presented in the final seminar (Genoa, December 1992). Those achievements made a good basis for preparing, in the following year, synthesis guidelines for the implementation of the entire process of protection, and, after that, organizing first regional and, later, national training courses. Finally, he pointed out that, since the very beginnings of the action, PAP had enjoyed full support by UNESCO, ICCROM, and ICOMOS, and that, after the establishment of the programme of 100 Historic Settlements of Common Mediterranean Interest in Marseille, the two activities had been implemented in harmony.

71. In the discussion that followed, some participants asked that pilot projects be implemented in cooperation with PAP/RAC to demonstrate and apply the experience acquired through expert studies. The implementation of such projects should spread to all PAP activities, bearing in mind especially their potential contribution to practical training. Also, a financial support by PAP to the implementation of those projects should be envisaged for the cases when countries express such needs. It was also pointed out

that future activities should be based on cooperation among a large number of Mediterranean towns which had acquired considerable experience, and that it was a good idea, among other activities, to organize training in various historic towns of the Mediterranean. Special attention was drawn to the problem of a logical distribution of tasks among the centres in Split, Marseille and Tunis.

72. Mr. Dharat, MAP, informed the meeting that the Coordinating Unit had organized a discussion on the distribution of activities and harmonization of MAP programmes, and that this issue would be raised also in the forthcoming meeting of RAC directors.

73. Concluding the discussion on this subject, the Director of PAP/RAC stressed the conviction of PAP that this action should be continued through the preparation of guidelines and instructions for the implementation of the process of protection of historic settlements. After that, training should be organized using the best available experience of the Mediterranean historic towns, first at the regional, and later at national levels.

74. Within the action on solid and liquid wastes management, in cooperation with CEFIGRE, Mediterranean Water Institute, the City of Marseille, and, in one case, the World Bank, training courses were organized on "Planning, Design, Management and Maintenance of Liquid Waste Treatment Plants". A similar action was in preparation for solid waste management, as well as launching of a training programme on reuse of treated urban wastewaters for irrigation. For the latter, guidelines had been prepared in cooperation with FAO. In the opinion of the Director of PAP/RAC, continuation of this action is one of the highest priorities for the entire Mediterranean area. In the future, it should be oriented to training on solid waste management and reuse of treated water, and to the formulation of solid and liquid wastes management programmes in selected coastal areas, especially within CAMP projects.

75. Several participants stressed the importance of the Solid and Liquid Wastes priority action, insisting at the same time that in future it should include the problems of industrial and hazardous wastes, as well as clean technologies, recycling of wastes, incineration, and other issues which could be of interest for the Mediterranean countries. Several participants supported the suggestion that concrete projects be incorporated in CAMP projects.

76. Mr. L. Saliba, (WHO) informed the meeting of the activity of WHO in this field. He pointed out that all results and documents of that activity were put at the disposal of PAP to be used in its programmes.

77. Upon a suggestion by the Chairman, the Director of PAP/RAC briefly commented on the achievements and programmes of the priority actions on tourism, aquaculture and renewable energies.

78. Within the action dealing with the development of tourism, after a large number of case studies and several expert meetings and seminars, Guidelines for an Environmental Approach to the Planning and Management of Tourism Development in Mediterranean Coastal Zones were prepared, as well as the methodology of Carrying Capacity Assessment. The follow up of that action envisaged the preparation of guidelines for CCA, and organization of a workshop to evaluate the Guidelines. After that the action would be implemented within the programme of MAP CAMP.

79. Commenting on the action on aquaculture, the Director of PAP/RAC reminded that a proposal of a cooperative project, prepared jointly with FAO and MEDRAP, could not be realized due to the impossibility to find donors. However, in 1992, FAO and MEDRAP II renewed their interest in attempting to create conditions for the implementation of the project, which should be discussed in a meeting to be organized in December in Tirana. Finally, he expressed the opinion that the documents prepared within that priority action should be used within the programme of CAMPs, while the implementation of the cooperative project should be started only if necessary financing was found outside the MAP budget, and if other organizational and institutional prerequisites were satisfied.

80. With regard to the action on renewable sources of energy, the Director of PAP/RAC said that a number of training courses had been organized in cooperation with CIEMAT (Centro de Investigaciones Energeticas, Medioambientales y Tecnologicas, Madrid), and that, after the decision on refocusing of MAP on integrated planning, the activity was oriented, in cooperation with UNEP, Nairobi, to environmentally sound energy planning within MAP CAMPs. The first practical action was implemented in Rhodes.

81. Finally, viewing this group of PAP activities as a whole, he expressed his opinion that the actions relative to historic settlements and solid and liquid wastes, owing to the rich available documentation and acquired knowledge, should be carried on with a strong orientation on the training component and formulation of concrete projects, while those on tourism, aquaculture, and renewable energies should be implemented through the process of integrated planning and management of coastal zones within MAP CAMPs.

82. In the discussion that followed, it was pointed out that, with regard to its importance, the action on EIA should continue as an individual priority action although closely linked with the action on integrated planning and management of coastal zones. Within the latter action, development and application of specific tools of environmental management such as GIS, economic instruments, and others should be continued.

83. The participants also stressed the need of continuing and, if necessary, intensifying, the application of results of the actions proposed to be incorporated into the one relative to integrated

planning and management. Emphasis was also put on the need to assess the results of these actions in the years to come.

84. Mr. Dharat, MAP, informed the meeting that, during previous meetings of the Contracting Parties, it had been advocated by some delegates that PAP/RAC should concentrate on selected specific priority subjects. Therefore, he welcomed the proposal of the PAP Director to conclude the priority actions on tourism, aquaculture and energy as individual priority actions, as well as the one on historic settlements, and to merge them in the framework of the priority action "Integrated Planning and Management of the Mediterranean Coastal Zones", using the experience gained from these priority actions in the CAMP projects.

85. Commenting on the statement of the representative of MAP, the Director of PAP/RAC said that he supported the proposal regarding the above priority actions, but that he would like to exclude the one on historic settlements, as he considered that its results and the scientific, professional and logistic basis justified its independent continuation, as had been planned earlier.

Agenda item 7: Other business

86. No issues were raised under this agenda item.

Agenda item 8: Adoption of the meeting report

87. The meeting discussed the draft report prepared by the secretariat, amended it and adopted in the present form.

Agenda item 9: Closure of the meeting

88. The Director of PAP/RAC expressed his satisfaction with the work and results of the meeting and thanked all the participants for their contributions. He pointed out that all the suggestions made during the meeting would be carefully examined and used in the implementation of the programme in 1992-93, and in the formulation of the programme proposal for 1994-95. He especially thanked the Coordinator of MAP and the staff of the Coordinating Unit who contributed to the organization of the meeting. Finally, he thanked the Chairman for very efficient chairing, and the translators for their contribution.

89. The Coordinator of MAP also estimated that the meeting was successful and that it fully met its objectives. He pointed out that the meeting was organized in Athens with regard to the situation in the host-country of PAP/RAC, but expressed his confidence that the next meeting would be held in Split. He informed the participants that the Meeting of the Bureau of the Contracting Parties held recently in Cairo decided that, until the status of the Centre is

resolved, the policy "business as usual" would apply to the implementation of the workplan approved for the period 1992-93. The Bureau also concluded that the Coordinator of MAP should visit PAP/RAC in order to examine its working conditions, and present a relative information to the next meeting of the Bureau planned for March 1993, and to exercise strict control over PAP/RAC activities until a new decision is taken by the Bureau. Finally, he declared his satisfaction with the implementation of PAP and work of the Centre, and thanked the Director of PAP/RAC for his efforts. He also thanked the Croatian authorities and Mr. Simoncic for their support to the Centre.

90. The Chairman was also pleased with the results of the meeting. He expressed his satisfaction with the work of PAP since it achieves practical results of interest for all Mediterranean countries. As the representative of Greece, he declared full support of his country to that work. Finally, he thanked the Coordinator of MAP, the staff of the Coordinating Unit and the PAP staff for their contributions to the organization of this meeting, expressing the wish that the next one be organized in Split.

91. The Chairman declared the meeting closed on November 25, at 13:00.

ANNEX I

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ANNEX II

Agenda

Monday, November 23

- 09:00 - 09:30 - Registration of participants.
- 09:30 - 12:30 - Opening of the meeting.
- Rules of procedure.
- Election of Officers.
- Adoption of the agenda.
- Brief review of PAP development in 1983-91.
- 14:30 - 17:00 - Report on the implementation of PAP in 1992, and actions scheduled for 1993:
* Integrated planning and management of Mediterranean coastal zones and PAP involvement in MAP CAMPS

Tuesday, November 24

- 09:30 - 12:30 - Report on the implementation of PAP in 1992, and actions scheduled for 1993:
* Cooperative projects on: water resources management, soil erosion, seismic risk mitigation.
* Individual priority actions.
- 14:30 - 17:00 - Morning session continued.
- Other business.

Wednesday, November 25

- 10:00 - 13:00 - Adoption of the meeting report.
- Closure of the meeting.

ANNEX III

List of documents

UNEP(OCA)/MED/WG.38/1	PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND TIME TABLE
UNEP(OCA)/MED/WG.38/2	ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA
UNEP(OCA)/MED/WG.38/3	LIST OF DOCUMENTS
UNEP(OCA)/MED/WG.38/4	REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF PAP IN 1992 AND ACTIVITIES SCHEDULED FOR 1993:
UNEP(OCA)/MED/WG.38/4.1	Integrated Planning and Management of Mediterranean Coastal Zones and PAP Involvement in MAP CAMPS
UNEP(OCA)/MED/WG.38/4.2	Water Resources Management
UNEP(OCA)/MED/WG.38/4.3	Cooperative Pilot Project on Soil Erosion Mapping and Measurement
UNEP(OCA)/MED/WG.38/4.4	Cooperative Project on Seismic Risk Mitigation in the Mediterranean
UNEP(OCA)/MED/WG.38/4.5	Individual Priority Actions

Reference documents

UNEP(OCA)/MED/WG.38/Info.1	Report on PAP Activities in the Period 1983-1989
UNEP(OCA)/MED/WG.38/Info.2	Report on the Implementation of PAP in the Period 1990-1991
UNEP(OCA)/MED/WG.38/Info.3	Report on PAP Activities within MAP CAMPS in the Period 1990-1991
UNEP(OCA)/MED/WG.38/Info.4	Proposal for the Establishment of a Training Programme on Water Resources Management in Malta
UNEP(OCA)/MED/WG.38/Info.5	List of Documents Produced in 1992 (until 1 October)