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MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN

Fourth Meeting of the Working Group
on Scientific and Technical
Co-operation for MED POL

Athens, 16-20 June 1986

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

UNEP

Athens, 1986

The Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention, by adopting the Long-term Programme for Pollution Monitoring and Research in the Mediterranean (MED POL - PHASE II) at their second meeting in Cannes, 2-7 March 1981, agreed that:

" A standing Working Group for Scientific and Technical Co-operation will be established by the Contracting Parties to assist them in their review of the Progress of the programme and the evaluation of the results. It will advise UNEP on technical and policy matters related to the programme and prepare recommendations for submission through UNEP, as the secretariat of the Convention, to the meetings of the Contracting Parties. The Group will consist of National MED POL Co-ordinators designated by the relevant national authorities and will meet at least once a year." (UNEP/IG.23/11, annex V, paragraph 51).

The first meeting of the Working Group was held in Athens, 28 September - 2 October 1981, to review the steps proposed by the secretariat for the launching of MED POL - PHASE II, and to advise the secretariat on technical and policy matters related to MED POL (UNEP/WG.62/7).

The second meeting of the Working Group was also held in Athens, 21-25 November 1983, to review the progress made in the implementation of MED POL - PHASE II, as well as the planned activities for 1984 and 1985. The Working Group also reviewed the assessment of the state of pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by mercury and micro-organisms, and the progress in the implementation of the protocols associated to the Convention (UNEP/WG.91/12).

The third meeting of the Working Group was also held in Athens, 27-31 May 1985, to review the progress made in the implementation of MED POL - PHASE II as well as the planned activities for 1985-1987. The Working Group also reviewed the revised version of the assessment of the state of pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by mercury and micro-organisms and proposed to the Fourth Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties environmental quality criteria concerning these two subjects. The Working Group also reviewed the assessment of the present state of pollution in the Mediterranean Sea by petroleum hydrocarbons, and the progress in the implementation of the protocols associated to the Convention (UNEP/WG.118/9).

The Fourth Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution and its related Protocols (Genoa, 9-13 September 1985) discussed the MED POL activities and approved the workplan and budget for 1986-1987 biennium.

The Meeting of Experts of the Technical Implementation of the protocol for the protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution from Land-based Sources was held in Athens, 9-13 December 1985, to review principles, workplan and timetable for the formulation and progressive adoption of programmes, measures, guidelines, standards and criteria necessary for the effective implementation of the Protocol (UNEP/WG.125/10).

The present Fourth Meeting of the Working Group is convened by the secretariat to review and evaluate the progress made by the MED POL programme since the Third Meeting of the Working Group and the activities proposed for 1986-1987 biennium, including their financial implications. In addition, the Meeting will be asked to review those activities of the Mediterranean Action Plan which are either related to the implementation of MED POL or which may benefit from the results of MED POL.

The following annotations of the proposed agenda for the meeting were prepared by the secretariat to assist the Working Group in their deliberations.

Agenda item 1 - Opening of the Meeting

The Meeting will be opened at 10.00 hours on Monday, 16 June 1986, in the conference room of the Co-ordinating Unit for the Mediterranean Action Plan, Athens, by the representative of the Executive Director of UNEP. All National Co-ordinators for MED POL have been invited to attend the meeting as members of the Working Group for Scientific and Technical Co-operation. Representatives of ECE, UNIDO, FAO, IMO, UNESCO, WHO, WMO, IAEA, and IOC have also been invited to attend the meeting.

Agenda item 2 - Rules of procedure

The rules of procedure adopted for meetings and conferences of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution and its related protocols will apply for the Meeting (UNEP/IG.43/6, annex XI).

Agenda item 3 - Election of officers

The Meeting will be invited to elect a Chairman, two Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur.

Agenda item 4 - Adoption of the agenda

The Agenda, as proposed in document UNEP/WG.144/1 and annotated in the present document, will be proposed for adoption by the Meeting.

Agenda item 5 - Organization of work

In view of the work expected to be accomplished, it is proposed that the Working Group works only in plenary sessions. Ad hoc discussion groups or drafting committees may be formed by the bureau of the Meeting, in consultation with the secretariat. Simultaneous English - French interpretation will be available for all plenary sessions.

Agenda item 6 - Progress report on the implementation of the MED POL - PHASE II in 1985-1986 and planned activities for 1986-1987

The secretariat will introduce document UNEP/WG.144/3, prepared by the secretariat in close collaboration with the co-operating agencies. It contains information on the progress achieved in the implementation of the Long-term Programme for Pollution Monitoring and Research in the Mediterranean (MED POL - PHASE II) in 1985-1986 and planned activities for 1986-1987.

The Working Group will be invited to review the contents of the document, to evaluate the reported progress in the implementation of MED POL and to make recommendations, as appropriate.

Documents UNEP/WG.144/Inf.3, UNEP/WG.144/Inf.4, UNEP/WG.144/Inf.5, UNEP/WG.144/Inf.6, UNEP/WG.144/Inf.7, and UNEP/WG.145/3, will be at the disposal of the Meeting for background information.

Agenda item 7 - Progress in the implementation of the Protocol for the Prevention of Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by Dumping from Ships and Aircraft

The secretariat will introduce document UNEP/WG.144/4, prepared by the secretariat on the basis of information reported by the countries signatories of the Protocol.

The Working Group will be invited to review and evaluate the contents of the document and to make recommendations, as appropriate.

Agenda item 8 - Progress in the implementation of the Protocol concerning Co-operation in Combating Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by Oil and other Harmful Substances in Cases of Emergency

The secretariat will introduce document UNEP/WG.144/5, prepared by the secretariat on the basis of information reported by the countries signatories of the Protocol.

The Working Group will be invited to review and evaluate the contents of the document and to make recommendations, as appropriate.

Agenda item 8 - Progress in the implementation of the Protocol for the protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution from Land-based Sources

The secretariat will introduce document UNEP/WG.144/6, prepared by the secretariat in close collaboration with WHO. The document contains main conclusions and recommendations, with the workplan and timetable of the implementation for the 1986-1995 period, of the Meeting of Experts of the Technical Implementation of the Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution from Land-based Sources (Athens, 9-13 December 1985).

The Working Group will be invited to review the contents of the document, to evaluate the reported progress in the implementations of the Land-based Sources Protocol and to make recommendations, as appropriate.

Agenda item 10 - Progress in the implementation of the Survey of Land-based Sources and Amounts of Pollutants reaching the Mediterranean Sea (MED POL X bis)

The secretariat will introduce document UNEP/WG.144/7, prepared by the secretariat in close collaboration with WHO. The document contains progress in the preparation and workplan for the implementation of the Survey.

The Working Group will be invited to review the contents of the document, to evaluate the reported progress and proposed workplan in the implementation of the Survey and to make recommendations, as appropriate.

Agenda item 11 - Revised draft reporting forms on the authorization of the discharge of liquid wastes into the Mediterranean Sea

The secretariat will introduce document UNEP/WG.144/8, prepared by the secretariat in close collaboration with WHO. The document contains simplified version of revised draft reporting forms prepared on the basis of comments received from Contracting Parties.

The Working Group will be invited to review the contents of the document, and to adopt (a) Revised draft form for reports on authorization issued for the discharge of liquid wastes into the Mediterranean Sea and (b) Revised draft form for annual reports concerning authorized discharges of liquid wastes into the Mediterranean Sea to be used on an interim basis as from 1986.

Agenda item 12 - Assessment of the present state of pollution by petroleum hydrocarbons in the Mediterranean Sea

The secretariat will introduce document UNEP/WG.144/9, prepared by the secretariat in close collaboration with IOC and IMO. The document is a revised version of documents UNEP/WG.118/7, UNEP/WG.118/Inf.10 and UNEP/WG.118/Inf.10, Add.1 prepared on the basis of comments received by the Contracting Parties and new available information.

The Working Group will be invited to review and evaluate the contents of the document, and to make recommendations, as appropriate.

Agenda item 13 - Assessment of the state of microbial pollution of shell-fish and shell-fish growing waters in the Mediterranean Sea and proposed measures

The secretariat will introduce document UNEP/WG.144/10, prepared by the secretariat in close collaboration with WHO. This document is a revised version of the part of the document UNEP/WG.118/6, prepared on the basis of comments received by the Contracting Parties and new available information.

The Working Group will be invited to review and evaluate the contents of the document, and to make recommendations, as appropriate.

Agenda item 14 - Assessment of the present state of pollution by cadmium, copper, zinc and lead in the Mediterranean Sea

The secretariat will introduce document UNEP/WG.144/11, prepared by the secretariat in close collaboration with FAO. The document is based mainly on the results reported in the MED POL Programme.

The Working Group will be invited to review and evaluate the contents of the document, and to make recommendations, as appropriate.

Agenda item 15 - Assessment of the state of pollution in the Mediterranean Sea by used lubricating oils and proposed measures

The secretariat will introduce document UNEP/WG.144/12, prepared by the secretariat in close collaboration with UNIDO. The document contains the progress as well as proposed workplan and timetable for the preparation of the assessment.

The Working Group will be invited to review the contents of the document, and to make recommendations as appropriate.

Agenda item 16 - Other business

Other subjects relevant to MED POL which might be brought to the attention of the Meeting by its participants or by the secretariat will be discussed under this agenda item.

Agenda item 17 - Adoption of the report

A draft report of the Meeting will be submitted to participants for adoption.

Agenda item 18 - Closure of the Meeting

The Meeting is expected to be closed by the Chairman of the Meeting and by the representative of the Executive Director at 18.00 hours on Friday, 20 June 1986.

SUGGESTED TIMETABLE

DATE	SESSION	AGENDA ITEM
Monday, 16 June	morning afternoon	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 6 (concluded), 7
Tuesday, 17 June	morning afternoon	8, 9 10, 11
Wednesday, 18 June	morning afternoon	11 (concluded), 12 13
Thursday, 19 June	morning	14, 15, 16
Friday, 20 June	morning afternoon	17 17 (concluded), 18