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REPORT OF THE NINTH MEETING OF THE MEDITERRANEAN COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (MCSD)

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Introduction

1. In accordance with the decision taken at its Eighth Meeting (Cavtat, 14-16 May, 2003) the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development held its Ninth Meeting in Genoa (Italy) at the Hotel Sheraton,, from 17-19 June 2004, at the kind invitation of the Italian Government.

Attendance

- 2. The meeting was attended by the following 29 members of the Commission: Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Cyprus, Egypt, European Commission, EDCM/ICC, ENDA Maghreb, France, Friends of the Earth/MEDNET, Greece, Israel, Italy, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malta, MEDCITIES, MEDFORUM, MIO-ECSDE, Monaco, Morocco, Municipality of Omisalj (Croatia), RAED, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovenia, Spain, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Turkey and WWF.
- 3. The following components of UNEP/MAP were also represented at the Meeting: MED POL, REMPEC, BP/RAC, CP/RAC, PAP/RAC, 100 Historic Sites and the Coordinating Unit.
- 4. The following United Nations specialized agencies, intergovernmental organizations and other partners attended the meeting as observers: UN/ESCWA, UNIDO/ICS, WORLD BANK/METAP, Baltic 21 Secretariat, IUCN, MEDENER/CRES, Regional Environmental Centre (REC, Headquarters in Hungary and Turkey Office) and the Palestinian Authority.
- 5. A full list of participants is contained in **Annex I** to this report.

Opening of the meeting

- 6. Ms Mastrovic (Croatia), speaking as the Chair of the outgoing MCSD Steering Committee, after welcoming the participants, referred to the main events that had occurred between the 8th and 9th meetings of the MCSD. She recalled in particular the adoption by the 13th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties in Catania in November 2003 of a recommendation entrusting the MCSD Steering Committee with the task of supervising the preparation of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD) and the holding of a workshop in Rabat in May 2004 to define a small and coherent set of thematic strategic objectives and the necessary means of implementation for eight priority areas for action. She wished the new Steering Committee and the MCSD every success in its important work of finalizing the MSSD for adoption by the 14th Meeting of the Contracting Parties, to be held in Slovenia in November 2005.
- 7. Mr Clini (Italy), in welcoming the participants to Genoa, recalled that the Mediterranean, a region that was rich in history, culture, marvellous landscapes and biodiversity, brought together different countries which shared considerable challenges in relation to the protection of ecosystems, economic growth and political stability. Multilateral cooperation in the region was therefore essential and the Mediterranean had been the first region to test pioneering forms of such cooperation for the protection of the environment, as illustrated by the creation of the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) in the 1970s. Yet despite the efforts made, including the updating of the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols and the creation of the MCSD, the quality of the environment in the region was at risk due to the non-sustainable use of natural resources in general, and of energy in particular. The situation was aggravated by the instability and conflicts faced by important countries in the region. He emphasized, in this respect, the fact that intergovernmental agreements, although crucial, could not work unless they were supported by concrete actions for sustainable development. The MCSD had a clear responsibility to guide development in the

region through a balanced use of resources allowing the integration of economic growth and environmental protection. The challenge of sustainable development in the region was clearly set out in the Declaration adopted in Catania by the Contracting Parties in November 2003.

- 8. Mr Clini emphasized the importance of the MSSD in injecting renewed political impetus into regional sustainable development endeavours and as a guide for other regions. He hoped the meeting would outline the means by which the MSSD could become the motor for opportunities to strengthen technological innovation and international environmental cooperation, which should be aimed at sustainable economic growth in the countries on the south of the Mediterranean, with special reference to the sustainable use of water and For the implementation of the principal objectives of the MSSD, it would be necessary to strengthen cooperation between Mediterranean countries through the involvement of the business community, local communities, multilateral financial institutions and civil society. He also recalled that the contributions that could be made by partnerships to environmental protection, particularly in such areas as energy, water and transport, had been the topic of the International Forum on Partnerships held in Rome in March 2004. In conclusion, he said that to take up the challenges of sustainable development in the region, all of the members of the MCSD would need to promote a new era for the Commission based on constructive actions and a concrete programme of work.
- 9. Mr Mifsud (MAP Coordinator) indicated that he was looking forward to the important discussions that would take place at this meeting of the MCSD, which was being held so very soon after he had taken up his new functions as MAP Coordinator. He recalled that the 13th Meeting of the Contracting Parties had set the MCSD an important goal in calling for it to finalize the MSSD in time for its adoption by the next meeting of the Contracting Parties. If the MCSD was to succeed in taking up this challenge, it would need to focus on moving forward, on the basis of a fully participatory process that concentrated on the issues under discussion, without reopening questions that had already been discussed at length. The overall aim should be to produce a strategy that could be implemented, that enjoyed the support of the countries and stakeholders concerned and that was widely accepted at the regional and international levels. It was in the interests of all concerned to adopt a coherent and effective strategy and the MCSD would therefore have to outline a clear process through which the challenges involved could be taken up.
- 10. Participants congratulated Mr Mifsud on his recent appointment as MAP Coordinator and wished him the best in guiding MAP through a period that was of critical importance for the environment and sustainable development. They also thanked the Government of Italy for hosting the 9th Meeting of the MCSD.

Keynote addresses

- 11. Three key note speeches were presented for the first time in a meeting of the MCSD, preceding the discussions on the items of the agenda for which they provided additional inputs.
- 12. Ms Chartier-Touzé (France) presented the work and findings of a meeting entitled "Rendez-vous Méditerranéen", held in Marseille on 17 and 18 May 2004. The informal meeting, attended by civil society experts in sustainable development, science and intercultural dialogue representing all Mediterranean countries, reflected France's commitment to sustainable development and its commitment both to assume fully its responsibilities as a Mediterranean country and to provide input to the work of MAP and the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership. Having noted the difficulties in perceiving the Mediterranean as a region, the growing pressures on the environment in the foreseeable future, the importance of education and training, the different agendas and concerns of the

European Union (EU) and the countries of the southern rim of the Mediterranean, and the need for the enlarged EU to embark on full-scale policies for co-development with the countries of the south, participants had put forward a number of specific proposals focusing on cultural diversity and creativity, economic solidarity, cooperation in the Mediterranean as a common sea, and spatial planning. The meeting had agreed on the importance of civil society in the effective implementation of a sustainable development strategy, on the need to support MAP as an environmental protection institution for the region and on the encouragement to be given to the countries of the south to strengthen links with the EU within the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership. The meeting's findings would be widely circulated and could serve as input for the MCSD and the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership (copy of the Power Point presentation is attached in **Annex III**)

- 13. Mr Westermark (Baltic 21) introduced Baltic 21 as a multi-stakeholder forum for sustainable development in the Baltic Sea region. Its membership included the nine countries on the rim of the Baltic Sea, plus Norway and Iceland, and also the European Commission, intergovernmental organizations (IGOs), non-governmental organizations (NGOs), the business sector and international financing institutions. Its Action Programme covered, among others, the sectors of agriculture, education, energy, fisheries, forestry, industry, tourism, transport and spatial planning. At a time when the EU was being enlarged, Baltic 21, which had been established in 1998, stood at a crossroads. It was seeking a new mandate from the forthcoming Summit of the region's Prime Ministers. Sharing as they did the concerns of the MCSD, the members of Baltic 21 took a keen interest in the experience of the MCSD and the challenges facing it.
- Mr Chello (Italy), speaking on energy issues, said that the "challenges-objectives" identified in the Strategic Objectives were too sector-specific and failed to take account of more significant upstream obstacles to development. Before progress could be made on such key objectives as the promotion of renewable energy sources, improving the efficiency of energy management and fostering access to energy, a major question to be addressed was the legal and regulatory framework and the role of monopoly state control over the energy sector. In any full-scale strategy, governance could not be seen in isolation from technology issues. Action needed to be taken to ease such constraints and to bring the legislative framework of the various countries closer to market demand, as was called for in the 1995 Barcelona Declaration, which formed the basis for Euro-Mediterranean cooperation in the field of energy. A step-by-step approach could be adopted, utilizing existing energy market infrastructures, including subregional infrastructures such as the Maghreb and Mashrek markets, to create links across the region. In terms of concrete action, Italy was in the process of setting up a technical energy platform to support the EuroMed Energy Forum. Among other activities, the platform would prepare studies and collect data in support of future initiatives. Italy was willing to offer its expertise and involve the MCSD in its work.

Election of the Steering Committee

15 In accordance with rule 17 of the Rules of Procedure and following the customary consultations, the Commission elected its new Steering Committee, the composition of which is given below:

President: Mr C. Clini (Italy)
Vice-Presidents: Mr A. Sahibi (Morocco)
Mr J. Parpal (MEDCITIES)

Mr E. Clancy (Friends of the Earth/MedNet)

Mr J-P. Fonteneau (EDCM/ICC)
Mr A. Lascaratos (Greece)
Mr N. Georgiades (Cyprus)

Rapporteur

Adoption of the agenda and organization of the meeting

During consideration of the agenda for adoption as contained in document UNEP(DEC)/MED.WG 294/2 Rev 1, it was pointed out that the report of the 8th Meeting of the MCSD should have been among the documents before the current meeting. Due note was taken of that comment for future meetings. In response to a query about the time allowed for the discussion on financing and cooperation, assurances were given that the timetable was sufficiently flexible to allow for further discussion on crucial agenda items if need be. The agenda was adopted.

MSSD preparatory process

- Mr Hoballah, introducing the report on the activities of the MCSD (UNEP(DEC)/MED WG.294/3), said that the 13th Meeting of the Contracting Parties had taken note of the "Vision" and "Framework Orientations" documents as working documents for the preparation of the MSSD and had called for comments on them. The comments received so far had been taken into account. In particular, some parties had requested the inclusion of the theme of "rural and agricultural development". The input on that issue prepared by BP/RAC had been circulated to the MAP Focal Points and MCSD members and a revised version was attached to the "Framework Orientations" document (Annex IV of this report).
- He presented an overview of the MSSD process and noted that the MCSD could learn from the experience of Baltic 21, which had presented its strategy to the highest political level with a view to ensuring the necessary political commitment, which was essential for implementation. With regard to the regional sustainable development vision, he emphasized that the integration of the goals of sustainable development into national sectoral policies, such as economic and education policy, would require a far-reaching change in cultures and attitudes. He then gave an overview of the MSSD Orientations, the challenges to be taken up, the areas for priority action and the approaches that should be adopted. He pointed out in conclusion that the MSSD process had enhanced the awareness that MAP did not stand alone and that the MSSD must be integrated with the activities of other partners.
- 19. The Meeting then heard a series of presentations of the action of several MAP components, with particular reference to the contribution that they were making and could make to the work of the MCSD, the promotion of sustainable development and the preparation of the MSSD. Presentations were made by BP/RAC, MED POL, REMPEC, PAP/RAC and CP/RAC.

Presentations by MAP components and partners

Blue Plan Regional Activity Centre (BP/RAC)

Mr Benoit (BP/RAC) presented the Report on Environment and Development in the Mediterranean, due for publication by the end of 2004. It showed the unity and diversity of situations in the various countries and the efforts being made to achieve sustainable development in the region. Whereas the previous such report, published in 1989, had set out separate scenarios, the present report aimed to present a baseline scenario, demonstrating how Mediterranean countries could achieve sustainable development as a region. Only the conclusions remained to be drafted, and the discussions at the present meeting would contribute to their preparation. The 2004 report focused on the specific features of the region, and broadly confirmed the main trends predicted 15 years previously, such as explosive urban growth, the huge increase in irrigated areas and the expansion of national

and international tourism, pressures on the coast, abandonment of the hinterlands, and high pressure from transport infrastructures. It reiterated the warnings issued fifteen years before, namely that, despite the Euro-Mediterranean partnership and new policies, the economic gap between North and South had widened further, as could be seen in a wide range of fields; nevertheless the North was not spared problems such as poor urbanization, traffic congestion, forest fires, depleted fisheries and natural disasters. North-South cooperation still fell short of the required levels and governments found it difficult to integrate the environment and development in their policies. Protected areas still received insufficient funding and there was no real integration of rural development policies. Industry was much cleaner but water and energy were still excessively supply-side dominated.

The report set out expectations for the year 2025, based on indicators such as climate and population. For example, fertility rates in the North and South would converge faster than originally forecast, which would reduce demographic pressures, but the problem of an ageing population, already faced in the North, would mean new challenges for southern countries. The integration process in the North should be beneficial but more cooperation would be necessary in the South, while the North would need to invest more in southern neighbouring countries. Rural areas would remain vulnerable, while urban problems would continue to be those of rapid population growth, the pressures of tourism, waste disposal and the transport of people and goods. On the coasts, tourism and energy consumption would be major problems. The scenario was not inevitable, however, and the situation could be greatly improved if the economy and environment were decoupled and, for example, if alternative renewable energies and the rational use of resources (water, energy) were promoted. Organic farming in certain areas had increased incomes while lowering costs, but tourism needed to be attracted away from coasts into hinterlands, while planning, transport and coastline protection needed to be improved, legislative and institutional changes were required, and energy savings should be an overriding goal. The countries of the South needed to make huge leaps forward to catch up with the North, by means of State reforms, partnerships and improved economic tools (summary of presentation is attached in Annex V)

MED POL

Mr Civili (MED POL), presenting information on the Strategic Action Programme (SAP MED) to address pollution from land-based activities, of direct relevance to MSSD. said that substantial progress had been achieved during the last biennium. A solid basis had been laid for countries to take practical national measures to reduce pollution, in particular industrial pollution. The first main achievement was the national baseline budgets of pollution emissions and releases, which would serve as the basis for calculating and tracking the pollution reductions set by SAP targets and deadlines. The second was the national diagnostic analyses prepared to highlight the priorities for intervention. Each country would next need to prepare 10-year National Action Plans (NAPs) by the end of 2005 describing planned pollution reduction interventions, with an investment portfolio. The MED POL Secretariat had embarked on a rigorous evaluation of SAP MED. The integration of SAP into the practices of sustainable development would ensure that development programmes were not adversely affected by the environmental protection measures called for by the SAP, which could otherwise jeopardize the attainment of SAP environmental targets. The SAP sustainability assessment aimed to evaluate SAP as a contributor to sustainable development and identify key areas of crucial importance to its success. SAP should be flexible enough to be adapted to the characteristics of each country. Its integration into sustainable development policies and practices should also be a more continuous process of defining critical marine ecosystem factors, conducting risk assessments, carrying out socioeconomic appraisals and ensuring the conservation of total capital, integrating NAPs into development programmes and obtaining the consent of stakeholders. The conclusions of the critical analysis being conducted would be fully taken into account in the future development of SAP MED as a fundamental MSSD component. The methodology used could serve as a model for other activities and programmes to verify their correspondence with MCSD objectives (summary of presentation is attached in **Annex VI**).

Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC)

23 Mr Patruno (REMPEC) presented the regional strategy on marine pollution from ships to ensure maritime transport sustainability in the Mediterranean region, a crucial issue in the overall transport area for priority action. Maritime transport complemented other transport and was the easiest and the most cost-effective and environment-friendly means of transporting passengers and goods over long distances and to islands, while contributing to economic growth. Yet it entailed major risks, such as marine oil pollution incidents and illicit discharges of ship-generated wastes, contributing to the deteriorating quality of sea water, posing a significant threat to biodiversity and possibly adversely affecting natural resources. Furthermore, the heavy maritime traffic in the Mediterranean, together with a high density of ports, required traffic separation schemes and VTS/VTMIS arrangements in many zones. In addition to the new Euro-Mediterranean Transport Network, recent regional trends in oil transport would significantly increase the amount of transported goods and the number of vessels in areas where traffic was already heavy, posing a higher risk to the environment. MAP had adopted the new Prevention and Emergency Protocol in January 2002 and the Catania Declaration in November 2003, and had decided to develop a Regional Strategy to implement the new Protocol based on preventing deliberate and accidental pollution. Complementary projects, such as CLEANMED, together with the further development of ecological protected zones might also help this process. Addressing maritime transport issues in the MSSD in coordination with the preparation of the REMPEC Regional Strategy, while maintaining a constant dialogue with all stakeholders, would ensure a fully coherent sustainable growth and development of maritime transport in the region (summary of presentation is attached in **Annex VII**). .

Priority Actions Programme Regional Activity Centre (PAP/RAC)

Mr Trumbic (PAP/RAC) presented the strategy for integrated coastal area management, supporting his arguments with statistical data. As had been emphasized in the analysis by BP/RAC, coastal population and urbanization had increased dramatically. International tourism was concentrated on the coasts, which were areas of fundamental significance for food security. Moreover their ecosystems were extremely fragile. The situation was unsustainable because people wished to live as close to the coast as possible, vet the various land uses were incompatible, the right of free access had been removed in many cases and there was a conflict between the requirement for the long-term conservation of resources and the desire for short-term economic profits. Above all, the coasts suffered from an inadequate provision of environmentally friendly services. Integrated Coastal Area Management (ICAM) had been seen as a key response to those problems for the past fifteen years, during which time the activities undertaken included a number of recommendations, a White Paper, the CAMP (Coastal Area Management Programme), a series of guidelines, capacity-building tools and instruments, an awareness-raising exercise and exchanges of information. Barriers to its effective implementation were being slowly removed, namely bureaucratic inertia, opposition to change, resistance from multiple private economic interests, the lack of political will and financial resources, and the complexity of legislative issues. A major breakthrough had been the decision to prepare a Protocol on Integrated Coastal Area Management and the Strategy for ICAM. He outlined the major milestones in the preparation of the Protocol and the follow-up to the first ICAM Forum (Cagliari, Italy). A draft Protocol and a proposed Strategy for ICAM would be submitted to the meeting of MAP Focal Points in September 2005 and to the Contracting Parties the following November. He concluded by spelling out the aims, prerequisites and basic guidelines of the ICAM Strategy, giving an outline of its structure, and by detailing the work plan leading to the presentation of the strategy at the meeting of the Contracting Parties (summary of presentation is attached in **Annex VIII**).

Cleaner Production Regional Activity Centre (CP/RAC)

Mr de Villamore (CP/RAC) said that the Centre had been working on the means of achieving sustainable development, including studies analysing the region's representative sectors and proposing economically feasible pollution prevention options. In the framework of the GEF Project on the determination of priority actions for the further elaboration and implementation of SAP MED, a set of guidelines had been issued on the application of best available techniques (BATs) and best economic practices (BEPs) in industrial sources of BOD, nutrients and suspended solids, the application of BEPs for the rational use of fertilizers and the reduction of nutrient loss from agriculture, and the application of BATs, BEPs and cleaner technologies in Mediterranean industries. Work on sustainable development targets had mainly focused on the regional plan for the 20 per cent reduction of the generation of hazardous waste from industrial plants by 2010, adopted by the Contracting Parties in Catania in November 2003. CP/RAC had also been active in training activities and initiatives to disseminate the findings of the application of sustainable work patterns by companies. Moreover, the Centre had been strengthening its cooperation with other MAP components, such as MED POL and PAP/RAC, and with the business sector including a cooperation agreement with the Mediterranean Chamber of Commerce Associations (ASCAME) and a study containing a database of the main business associations of the Mediterranean region.

Economic Development Chamber of Monaco/International Chamber of Commerce (EDCM/ICC)

26. Mr Fonteneau (EDCM/ICC) said that the partnership of his organization with the MCSD was relatively recent and there was still some difficulty in conveying a perception of the mutual benefits to be derived from it. Common ground had yet to be found in determining the respective roles of the Commission and the business sector he represented. Although the MCSD and ICC clearly shared objectives and concerns, the MCSD was still at the stage of strategy development, whereas motivation of the business community hinged largely on concrete projects; in this context, promoting Mediterranean Business Awards, along the lines of the World Business Awards, could provide a good incentive to business partners. A recent ICC meeting in Marrakesh had specifically discussed the question of partnerships with the MCSD, and a concrete project was to be identified, for submission by the end of the year, to be carried out within the MCSD framework. Such a project would provide scope for determining the roles and responsibilities of the two parties and for subsequent joint action. He hoped that the agenda of future MCSD meetings would allow for a discussion of what the Commission expected of the business sector so that feedback could be provided to the business community. In response to those comments, it was suggested that one of the avenues to explore that would be relevant to the MCSD process in consolidating public and private sector partnerships would be to identify best practices.

Friends of the Earth/MedNet

27 Mr Clancy (Friends of the Earth/MedNet), speaking on behalf of the NGOs participating in the MSSD, outlined the participation of NGOs in the meetings and workshops relevant to the MSSD process, in which they had been involved from the outset. NGOs were generally well placed to contribute in the fields of education, awareness-raising and capacity-building with a strong media component. National and local NGOs had also mobilized to work on the MSSD and provide quality inputs by means of policy papers. More specific contributions included the preparation of areas for priority action and of documents on the

MSSD formulation process, content and vision, in addition to a project proposal to hold national NGO consultations and a regional NGO conference on the MSSD within the coming eight to ten months, for which purpose efforts to secure funding were under way. With reference to the conclusions of the NGO meeting held in Madrid in January 2004, he stressed the importance of the horizontal components of the MSSD, which should be ambitious and well focused, with selected priorities, an achievable timetable and a realistic road map. It should also set concrete regional targets and criteria-based objectives in line with the WSSD commitments already made, establish implementation mechanisms and clear common but differentiated responsibilities and commitments of all actors. Moreover, it should ensure better governance, wider participation and identify innovative approaches to the financial support of local and regional actions for sustainable development involving all stakeholders, including civil society (note from this NGO is attached in **Annex IX**).

Sustainability Impact Assessment of the Euro-Mediterranean Free Trade Area (SIA/EMFTA)

Ms Chouchani Cherfane (UN-ESCWA) outlined the background of the Sustainability Impact Assessment of the Euro-Mediterranean Free Trade Area (SIA-EMFTA) project, which had been launched in 2004 for the purpose of creating an area of shared prosperity between the EU and MEDA partners, enhancing sustainable development in the region, mitigating the negative impact of trade measures and enhancing their positive effects, informing further negotiations and ensuring ownership of the SIA process by governments and stakeholders. The project was implemented by a Steering Committee and a consortium of partners, with the involvement of governments, the European Commission, civil society and regional experts. She described the SIA process, methodology and assessment techniques, from the identification of priority areas for action to the final impact assessment, analysis and monitoring. A core feature of the project was its consultation strategy, for which a variety of mechanisms were in place. After reporting on the progress made to date, notably in terms of meetings, consultations and information, and on the steps ahead, she invited participants to convey any comments and suggestions on useful studies or reports on the impact of trade measures on sustainable development in EMFTA Partner Countries, on the key economic, social and environmental issues related to trade liberalization in the region, on information and awareness-raising about the SIA process and project, and on contributions from a wide range of experts and stakeholders (copy of Power Point presentation is attached in **Annex** X).

General discussion of the nature and purpose of the MSSD

- 29. Mr Antoine (France), referring to a statement in the progress report that "though not a normative document, the MSSD should however induce and catalyse the necessary actions towards sustainable development in the region", raised the issues of the nature and purpose of the MSSD, particularly in terms of the commitments to be made. He considered that the MCSD and the Contracting Parties should further specify the nature of the MSSD in relation to the regional and national commitments that it would or should involve.
- 30. In a broad-ranging discussion, several members of the MCSD welcomed the opportunity to review important issues relating to the MSSD and to provide guidance to the Secretariat to help in the difficult task of the preparation and finalization of the Strategy. With regard to the role of a regional sustainable development strategy, many of the speakers pointed out that it had an important role to play in linking the commitments entered into at the global level, such as the decisions adopted at the Johannesburg Summit, the Millennium Development Goals and the guidance provided by the UNCSD, and those to be taken at the national level. From a top-down perspective, a regional strategy should serve to further prioritise and adapt the goals set at the global level to the specific conditions pertaining at the regional level. For example, while the development of sustainable tourism was of some importance at the global level, it was of prime importance in the Mediterranean, where

tourism formed such a vital part of the economies of so many countries. As the goals of the MSSD would be implemented at the national level, it would be necessary to strengthen the capacity of all participating actors in the participation process wherever this was most critical. In this respect, Slovenia proposed that the bottom up approach should be applied in selecting and quantifying the priority goals of the MSSD, while the top down approach appeared to be more appropriate for the coordination of the normative/contractual frameworks of the MSSD, the transfer of technical tools and for financial and other assistance for the national implementation of the MSSD. In this light, the newly proposed inter-agency collaboration might serve in particular as a mechanism for promotion, stimulation and coordination of the transfer of capacity from wealthier countries and international organizations to the South and East of the Mediterranean. Moreover, several interventions referred to the role the MSSD should play as a facilitator of partnerships between countries to address common objectives and for the channelling of assistance, in terms of financial and human resources, the exchange of technologies and capacity building between countries in the region and with international agencies. The Strategy should also lead to the preparation of programmes and projects that could interest funding agencies. The European Union had already developed a sustainable development strategy and several of its Member States had prepared and/or were implementing national strategies. The new Member States of the European Union from the Mediterranean region would now be involved in this process. Other countries were also in the process of preparing national sustainable development strategies, and it was therefore of great importance to ensure a high level of synergy between the MSSD and national strategies. Moreover, the lessons learned for example through the evaluation exercises undertaken of national sustainable development strategies and at the level of the European Union should clearly be taken into account.

- 31. It was pointed out that a process of endorsement of the MSSD would clearly be needed, and should be at the highest possible level, such as in the case of Baltic 21, which has been approved by Prime Ministers, and should involve as broad a range of stakeholders and sectoral ministries as possible. MAP, the MCSD and the actors involved at the various levels already had the necessary mandate to go ahead and formulate the strategy, based primarily upon the commitments made by the Contracting Parties at the international level, such as those assumed at Johannesburg by Prime Ministers and Heads of State. It would be important, as shown by the example of Baltic 21, to obtain approval of the MSSD at the highest political level, once it is approved by the meeting of the Contracting Parties. Another important framework for the acceptance and implementation of the MSSD would be the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership, which involved meetings and action at the ministerial level in the various sectors, such as Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Finance, Health, Agriculture and Education. However, several speakers also observed that European Union experience had shown that it was not an easy task to gain the active support and approval of all the various sectors, which by definition, needed to be involved in such a far-reaching and important initiative as the MSSD. The difficult task facing the MCSD was to combine economic, social and environmental elements in a coherent whole. In doing so, it should draw its inspiration from the successful work of other entities, such as the European Union, Baltic 21 and UNCSD and should urge all States to establish procedures at the national level to address sustainable development issues at the highest level so that they would be prepared for action once the MSSD was adopted by the Contracting Parties. It was also proposed that a letter be sent to MAP National Focal Points urging them to set up procedures at the national level to facilitate the process of the preparation and implementation of the MSSD.
- 32. Mr Arif (World Bank/METAP) endorsed the principle of the MSSD, but pointed out that in relation with the first target of the seventh Millennium Development Goal concerning environment, sustainability and sustainable development, the MSSD should show how environmental dimensions could be integrated into policies, programmes and projects in specific sectors, that are not addressing sustainable development in those sectors. He

added that MAP and the MCSD were the best fora for promoting that approach. He also called upon the MCSD to ensure that, when recommending strategic actions in the MSSD, these should be based to the extent possible on cost-benefit analysis (including externalities and concepts of green accounting), on the availability of local resources and on the affordability of implementing these strategic actions.

These would be among the first questions raised when the MSSD was presented to authorities and stakeholders. Other speakers also emphasized the importance of ensuring that the MSSD did not merely remain a vision, but that it incorporated practical projects and set targets which were measurable through the use of such instruments as environmental impact studies and scientific evaluation indicators. They also urged the MAP components to call on the assistance of METAP in determining the cost of the proposed action.

- 33. In a discussion of the level of detail required for the MSSD, certain speakers proposed that it could consist of two parts. The first might take the form of a declaration of principles and objectives and should be sufficiently general to be endorsed at the highest political level. The second might be a type of plan of implementation, setting out more concrete goals, including schedules and indicators. Other speakers, recalling that the role of the MSSD was to adapt global commitments to the regional level, said that sufficient flexibility needed to be retained for the adaptation of these goals to the national level and that firm implementation plans were therefore more a matter for the national level. Furthermore, it was suggested that the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and MDG targets should be achieved collectively by the region, thereby allowing for the demonstration of solidarity among all countries and partners. The Coordinator added that, apart from setting specific commitments through the Strategy, it was important to ensure that there was a monitoring mechanism so that an overview could be maintained of the progress made in giving effect to the MSSD at the regional level. He added that, rather than focusing on whether or not the MSSD was a normative document, what was important was to develop a strategy, thereby fulfilling the commitment agreed to by the Contracting Parties. Moreover, the MSSD should be sufficiently flexible to secure its implementation.
- Many of the speakers also welcomed the presentations by the MAP components of 34. their activities and the relevance of these activities to the promotion of sustainable development. From the activities undertaken, it was clear that there was already a very good basis which could be drawn upon for the development of the MSSD. However, the activities of the various Regional Activity Centres and other MAP components remained somewhat isolated. It would therefore be an important function of the MSSD to bring the various strands together into a coherent whole. Using these building blocks, it was important to make rapid progress in the preparation of the strategy, not only with a view to its adoption by the Contracting Parties in November 2005, but also, once its various elements had become clear, for its further dissemination with a view to enlisting the broad-based support that would be required for its effective implementation. Several speakers added that it would be necessary to circulate elements of the MSSD, including the strategic objective sheets, as soon as possible to start enlisting the contribution and support of other ministries and stakeholders. In view of the importance and volume of work involved, Italy indicated its readiness to provide technical and financial support to assist the Secretariat in the preparation of the strategy. Finally, it was emphasized that, in preparing the strategy, it was necessary to be ambitious, aim high and to convey a strong political message, which highlighted in particular the need for political and institutional reform.
- 35. The Coordinator said that the MAP components were doing excellent work, but coordination could be improved. The Secretariat needed to address that problem because their input was vital to the MSSD. He added that the regional activity centres were part and parcel of MAP and would be involved to a greater extent in the development of the MSSD. He recalled that a substantive document in an advanced stage of preparation needed to be ready hopefully for adoption by the next meeting of the Contracting Parties. In respect to

various comments, he indicated that a decision was imminent on the appointment of a sustainable development officer to assist the Secretariat in bringing all the elements together.

Review and finalization process of the strategic objective sheets for each of the areas for priority action

- 36. Mr Hoballah, introducing the discussion, recalled the process followed for the preparation of the strategic objective sheets (document UNEP(DEC)/MED WG.294/3), including the workshop held in Rabat in May 2004, and the sources upon which they were based, with particular reference to the lessons from other areas, such as the European Union, the Baltic and Asia, and the OECD/UNDP methodology. He also outlined a proposed process for the further review of the sheets by MAP and members of the MCSD, leading up to their integration into the MSSD report, their examination by a planned regional workshop to review the first draft of the MSSD in March 2005 and the consideration of the MSSD by the 10th meeting of the MCSD in June 2005.
- In the ensuing discussion, it was agreed that no advisory group or further institutional structures were required to take the process forward, in which connection speed was now of the essence. The expertise of the regional activity centres and material already available should be used in order to avoid duplication of efforts and save human and financial resources. To that end, the resources of MAP should also be used in a more integrated manner and only where necessary should work be outsourced to experts selected by the Secretariat. Task managers, however, were integral to the process of preparing the contributions to be submitted, in addition to which national focal points should be asked to provide inputs on national needs and priorities to be taken into account at the drafting stage. In that context, the Coordinating Unit should have the flexibility to enable it to set up working groups or hire consultants as it saw fit. The European Commission offered to provide the sustainable development indicators which it had already gathered from a variety of sources and the representative of Italy offered his country's expert assistance in the fields of energy and agriculture, while the representative of Greece offered the same in regard to the sustainable management of water and air pollution and climate change, and Malta for urban issues. General agreement was expressed on a proposal made by the Chairperson that the MAP components should be responsible for the finalization of the strategic objective sheets and that countries should act as peer reviewers. The Coordinator indicated that this process could be followed provided that the Secretariat retained the prerogative to call on assistance where necessary. Mr Georgiades (Cyprus) indicated that, while he would go along with the consensus on this point, he wished it to be noted that there had been no time for reflection on the proposal.
- 38. The broad feeling was that the eight strategic objective sheets provided a satisfactory basis on which to work, even though, in some cases, there was still room for improvement; in particular, the sheet on air pollution and climate change needed to be reviewed. The quality of the sheets was often linked to whether or not they were closely based on the Orientation Matrix. Emphasis was placed on the importance of such horizontal components and themes as education, communication and consultation processes which should be clearly identified within the MSSD. In that connection, involvement of the social and economic sectors at an early stage was essential. It was also proposed that an additional paper of a more general nature should be prepared to bring together the social, economic and environmental pillars of the MSSD, possibly based on a summary of the Blue Plan's Environment and Development Report, which contained important lessons, and that greater emphasis should be placed on the integration of environmental issues in other areas. Fixed deadlines and targets are appropriate except where flexibility is needed. Based on the model of the UNCSD action plans, it was also proposed that monitoring could be carried out on a two-yearly basis. Finally, participants were requested to send their comments and

inputs on the thematic notes and the preparation of the MSSD before the end of September 2004, the latest.

Financing and cooperation for sustainable development in the Mediterranean Region

- 39. Mr Benoit (BP/RAC) presented the findings of the MCSD working group on "Financing and Cooperation", as an outcome of a regional experts workshop held in June 2004, at which a regional study, three national studies and an analysis of available international data relating to financial flows to the Mediterranean were considered. The document he presented reviewed the existing situation and proposed tentative courses of action for the future. It was open to review and improvement. Further work to be done would include developing financial indicators on a theme-by-theme basis for incorporation into the future strategy and likewise adopting a thematic approach to monitoring. A summary of Mr. Benoit's presentation is contained in **Annex XI**.
- 40, Members of the Commission welcomed the document, saying that it was a timely and useful tool for the preparation of the MSSD, in particular with regard to the instruments for implementing the Strategy. It was pointed out that the weaknesses in the preparation of the Strategy as conceived thus far had been in the socio-economic aspects and cross-sectoral issues, a shortcoming satisfactorily addressed in the document. There was agreement, however, that a regional coordination mechanism was lacking.
- Concern was expressed that parts of the document seemed to represent a move away from a "green" economic approach to a more traditional philosophy; the industrialized world did not necessarily offer the requisite models, especially with regard to taxation, and it was felt that specific reference should be made to the use of fiscal incentives for such activities as restoration and environmental services. Moreover, it was suggested that the whole issue of local authority autonomy, not only in matters of taxation, needed to be considered. Although the notion of "going beyond the project scale", mentioned in one of the proposals in the document, was a fashionable one, it was pointed out that sustainable development could be achieved simultaneously on the "project scale" and at the "regional level"; the principal objective should be that of improving project quality in the overall framework of sustainable development policy, as had recently been considered in the context of MEDA, where it had been agreed that subregional approaches needed to be among MEDA's priorities. Hopes were voiced that the national components of MEDA could be given greater weight, as a way of ensuring that beneficiary countries made their policies "greener". In that connection, it was suggested that a combination of incentives and monitoring, to ensure that national action plans took sustainable development into consideration, would be productive. Calls were made for MEDA procedures to be made less laborious, to benefit the recipient countries.
- 42. Another crucial issue raised concerned the insufficient account taken by decision-makers of the costs involved in the integration of the environmental dimension into investments aimed at efficiency and sustainability. Although it was necessary to improve financial instruments, such as tax incentives, subsidies and taxes reflecting the internalisation of the cost of using natural resources, it was considered that the countries of the South and East of the Mediterranean needed to mobilize more substantive financial instruments, such as structural funds, which would be required to make the appropriate investments. It was important to ensure that not only national governments, but also operators and consumers took responsibility for sustainable development matters. Some felt that the principle of paying for environmental services ought to be considered in the Strategy as an important tool for promoting sustainable development. The political role was emphasized by some, since the Strategy could be useful when lobbying for more EU funding for Mediterranean countries. The statistical information contained in the document would assist in putting forward arguments for the funding of sustainable development in the

Mediterranean. The European Union had recently begun its discussion of the finances for the period 2006-2013 and early finalization of the MSSD would be useful for influencing those discussions, especially since it was hoped that a cross-border financing instrument would be in place by 2007. The ways and means of ensuring the involvement of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership in the MSSD also needed to be examined.

- 43. Generally it was felt that more international funding for the environment should be sought, as was highlighted in the document, and the growing importance of the European Investment Bank (EIB) was stressed. MAP should invite representatives to its meetings and the Bank should give priority to loans for projects that promoted sustainable development. Support was lent to the notion of decentralizing financial cooperation, and the idea of twinning towns, local authorities and civil society actors on the northern and southern rims of the Mediterranean was welcomed.
- 44. NGOs in developing countries could play a useful role in channelling outside financial assistance to its target beneficiaries. Economic actors needed to be involved in the MSSD process to a greater extent, and they needed to be persuaded that sustainable development was financially beneficial to them in the long term.
- 45. It was pointed out that foreign aid for sustainable development represented a tiny fraction of the GDP of countries in the southern and eastern Mediterranean countries. Those countries were encouraged to put their own public finance arrangements in order before the major financial institutions could be called upon to complement national resources; subsidies were enormous in some countries, but resources were not optimally used. The question was asked why some of the southern countries had made progress in particular sectors, although many countries had not made substantial progress in this area. Perhaps a comparative study of the policies applied in all Mediterranean countries was called for. Furthermore, the sources of environmental degradation were those economic sectors that contributed least to GDP. Patterns needed to be changed to reduce water consumption by agriculture and industry to make more water available for the services sector that was economically more productive. Structural funds had to be mobilized to improve infrastructures, especially those relating to water consumption and treatment. A method had to be found to encourage countries to reform, introducing more fiscal discipline, improving their financial analysis and reviewing their priorities.
- 46. The MCSD was called upon to define a number of proposals to be made to the countries, which would then be subject to adaptation according to national circumstances and needs. Existing mechanisms needed to be reformed, where appropriate, and imaginative and innovative measures should be adopted involving civil society and other partners. The comparative lack of investment in the Mediterranean, the fact that debt conversion was not sufficiently tied to sustainable development and the issue of migrant remittances were all broad issues that should be considered for such treatment.
- 47. Mr Benoit clarified some of the statistical data contained in the report and the purpose of the financial indicators, which would make it possible to determine whether progress was being made in key areas such as energy savings and the use of renewable energy sources. He added that the worlds of economics and the environment, in particular in relation to sustainable development, had insufficient knowledge of and contact with each other, thus creating some misunderstandings that affected integration.

Structure and content of the MSSD report

- 48. Mr Hoballah introduced the item and drew attention to the information and suggestions contained in the report by the Secretariat for the 9th MCSD, on preparing for the MSSD report and on the MSSD Advisory Group.
- 49. In general, speakers were in agreement that, in view of the time constraint for preparation of the MSSD, the Coordinator and the Secretariat should be given assistance but that no further formal structures, such as an advisory group, should be established. However, the Coordinator should have full discretion to call upon any expertise he wished. Several speakers pointed out that the decision of the Contracting Parties to set up an Advisory Group had been overtaken by the Commission's agreement to have most of the work done by the components of MAP with input from the countries and partners.
- 50. The Coordinator said that the Secretariat should certainly be free to call upon whatever expertise it needed. The objective was to produce the MSSD, irrespective of where the inputs came from.

MCSD programme of work for the next four to five years

- 51. Mr Hoballah pointed out that the two tasks before the Commission were to prepare the Strategy and implement its programme of work. The proposed programme would need to be reviewed once the Strategy was adopted; hence the need for flexibility. The proposed programme of work was based on the priorities already defined and generally agreed upon. In terms of methodology for implementation, it was proposed that the MCSD could take account of the UNCSD approach of a technical session the first year and a policy one the second, and that the practice of working groups for the various priority areas should be continued. The policy review would also deal with cross-sectoral issues, such as those identified in the "Framework Orientations", which would certainly constitute a major part of the MSSD. He drew attention to the proposed medium-term programme of work as contained in Annex VII to the report by the Secretariat.
- 52. In the ensuing discussion, participants found the proposed programme and method of work to be interesting and to reflect previous requests. However, some misgivings were expressed about adopting a detailed programme of work while the MSSD was still in preparation, as implementation of the Strategy would ultimately form the basis for the work of the MCSD. Following explanations by Mr Hoballah and recognizing the necessity of a programme of work for the forthcoming period, the meeting agreed that the work programme as proposed should be seen as a basic blueprint for action in the period ahead, allowing for all due flexibility to enable specific or new concerns to be reflected, pending review and revision in the light of the Strategy. Matters such as working modalities should, as had been agreed earlier, be left to the discretion of the Secretariat, with peer review by the MCSD members and Contracting Parties.
- 53. The adaptation of the UNCSD programme of work to the Mediterranean context, having due regard for regional priorities, met with general approval, as did the UNCSD approach of a technical session the first year and a policy one the second year as a useful implementation monitoring mechanism. Some adjustments were suggested to the clusters proposed. One participant referred to the importance of costing the proposed activities, while, on another point, reassurances were given about the integration of sustainable development into the SAP, as part of the programme of work. It was also indicated that sufficient provision should be made for regional reflection and activities on major global initiatives, such as the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development. Finally, the Secretariat was requested to proceed with the proposed programme of work and

method of work, bearing in mind that it would be re-assessed once the MSSD had been adopted.

MCSD Informal Inter-Agency Platform

- 54. Mr Hoballah, introducing the subject, explained that the intention of the proposed MCSD Informal Inter-Agency Platform was to promote cooperation and consultation among regional partners in the interest of sustainable development in the Mediterranean region. It was not intended as a superstructure that would create additional burdens, but it should demonstrate the willingness of regional partners to consult, exchange experience and work together.
- 55. General support was expressed in principle for the establishment of the proposed Platform on an initially experimental basis in the hope of facilitating inter-agency coordination and synergy, although it was stated that on both practical and financial grounds it should meet less frequently than every six months. One suggestion to be further pursued was that its most important function should be to facilitate the transfer of technical assistance and expertise between the North and the South and East of the region in particular. However, the need for caution was also emphasized, particularly in view of the resources to be spent on developing and implementing the MSSD; any such Platform should not only be efficient but should have a real and concrete purpose other than to garner information, which was easily obtainable from other sources. The meeting agreed that the proposed Platform should be further pursued, in principle, with a flexible timetable so as to assess the possibility for promoting cooperation and synergy between regional actors for the benefit of the region and the beneficiary countries and partners. This issue would be re-assessed at a later stage depending on progress.

Progress on "Mediterranean Cultural Heritage and Sustainable Development"

- 56. Mr Antoine (France) recalled that the cultural dimension had been adopted as one of MAP's ten priorities when it had been created, in Genoa, in 1985. Furthermore the protection and enhancement of the cultural heritage of the Mediterranean, bearing sustainable development in mind, had been the subject of a decision taken by the Contracting Parties in Catania in November 2003. Tunisia and France had been entrusted with the task of setting up a network whose aim was not only to conserve the heritage physically but also to enrich it, in conjunction with the local population and authorities. Since MAP itself lacked the financial resources needed to support such a network, funding was being sought elsewhere. It was hoped that some 40 partners would be committed by early 2005, when the city of Marseille would host a meeting of an initial network corpus, involving both cities and associations.
- 57. Mr Gannoun (Tunisia) expressed his country's commitment to this ambitious programme in view of the importance of heritage sites in all MAP countries at threat from serious pollution and other hazards. Since the southern Mediterranean countries lacked the funding needed to care for and rehabilitate many sites, various formulae had to be considered, one of them being involving the private sector and associations with site conservation and enhancement. The sites could be used for leisure and cultural tourism, provided that sustainable development was promoted. He invited all countries to join the programme, since it was so important to safeguard the region's cultural wealth.

Tenth MCSD meeting

58. Mr Hoballah announced that the 10th meeting of the MCSD would be held in June 2005; offers to host the meeting would be welcome. The timing was important, since it would allow for the Focal Points to approve the MSSD, with the programme of work, before the

Strategy was presented to the Contracting Parties for possible adoption. The draft Strategy would be the main item on the agenda of the meeting. In view of the importance of the Strategy, the meeting might last an extra day. The draft road map concerning steps leading to and beyond the presentation of the Strategy to the Contracting Parties had been presented and discussed. A revised road map is attached hereafter together with a summary of conclusions and decisions.

Any other business

- 59. Mr. Grgur (Serbia and Montenegro) delivered a statement informing that his country had recently joined MAP and participated for the first time as MCSD member. Giving due importance to Sustainable Development approach, the Republic of Montenegro, that will cooperate with MAP on behalf of the State Union, has created a National Council for Sustainable Development consisting of representatives from the Government, the business sector and NGOs. He stressed the importance for involving Montenegro in the MSSD preparatory process through the joint engagement of Montenegro's institutions and MCSD for the preparation of a National Action Plan for Sustainable Development. To that end, he called on the MCSD to provide both financial and technical support for the establishment and implementation of this Sustainable Development Plan.
- 60. Three side events were held during the course of the meeting, two presented by Italy on the themes on the Mediterranean Dialogue on Renewable Energy and the Mediterranean Forecasting System and ADRICOSM Partnership, and one by the Secretariat of Baltic 21. The side events aroused keen interest and gave rise to lively interactive debate. A brief summary on each is attached as **Annex XIII**.

Closure of the meeting

61. Following the usual exchange of courtesies, the meeting rose at 12.50 pm on Saturday 19 June 2004

PROPOSED ROAD MAP FOR THE MSSD

1.	July 04	Letter to MAP NFPs and MCSD members to induce and prepare for national consultations
2.	July-September 04	Consultation within countries/partners
3.	September 04	Written comments from MCSD members and partners on thematic notes and the preparation of the Strategy
4.	July-October 04	Review of thematic notes by the Secretariat and consultation with Regional Partners
5.	October-November 04	Comments from countries and MCSD Steering Committee meeting for finalization of the thematic notes and launching of the preparation of the MSSD report
6.	December 04-February 05	Preparation of draft MSSD report by MAP Secretariat
7.	March 05	Regional workshop on draft MSSD involving larger participation from countries (2-3 participants, if funds will be available) and consultation/participation of Regional partners
8.	March-April 05	Consultation process within countries on MSSD draft report
9.	April-May 05	Meeting of MCSD Steering Committee, to review draft MSSD report
10.	June 05	10 th MCSD to review, finalize and approve the MSSD, together with the programme of work
11.	September 05	Presentation of the MSSD to the MAP NFP meeting
12.	September-October 05	Assessment of ways and means for higher level endorsement, through test cases
13.	November 05	14 th meeting of the Contracting Parties for consideration of MSSD report and if possible final adoption, including mechanism for higher level endorsement
14.	December 05-January 06	Information/Communication Strategy on MSSD
15.	February-June 06	Follow up mechanism and consultations for implementation at the regional and national levels

N.B. Throughout the process there will be continuous involvement and support from MAP Secretariat (MEDU and all other MAP components, in relation to their respective expertise); moreover information for awareness and support will be communicated as far as possible and useful, through major ministerial meetings of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership, as well as the League of Arab States, the Adriatic-Ionian Initiative and other relevant bodies. If possible (depending on availability of technical and financial means), the Secretariat would provide external support for catalysing and facilitating the national consultations throughout the process of the preparation of the MSSD

Summary of Conclusions and Decisions 9th Meeting of the MCSD, Genoa, Italy 17-19 June 2004

1. The Commission elected its new Steering Committee, composed as follows:

President: Mr C. Clini (Italy)
Vice-Presidents: Mr A. Sahibi (Morocco)
Mr J. Parnal (MEDCITIES)

Mr J. Parpal (MEDCITIES)

Mr E. Clancy (Friends of the Earth/MedNet)

Mr J-P. Fonteneau (EDCM/ICC)
Mr A. Lascaratos (Greece)
Mr N. Georgiades (Cyprus)

Rapporteur Mr N. Georgiades (Cyprus)

- 2. As the goals of the MSSD would be implemented at the national level, it would be necessary to strengthen the capacity of actors participating in the process wherever this was necessary and feasible.
- 3. The MSSD should play a role as a facilitator of partnerships between countries to address common objectives and for the channelling of assistance, in terms of financial and human resources, the exchange of technologies and capacity building between countries in the region and with international agencies. The Strategy should also lead to the preparation of programmes and projects that could interest funding agencies.
- 4. Throughout the preparatory process and further during implementation, it is of great importance to ensure a high level of synergy between the MSSD and national strategies.
- 5. A process of endorsement of the MSSD would clearly be needed. Endorsement should be at the highest possible level, and should involve as broad a range of stakeholders and sectoral ministries as possible, once it is approved by the meeting of the Contracting Parties.
- 6. All States should establish national procedures to address sustainable development issues at the highest level in order to facilitate the process of the preparation of the MSSD, and there on be prepared for action once the MSSD is adopted by the Contracting Parties. To that end, the Secretariat will send a letter to the MAP National Focal Points to induce them to launch national consultations.
- 7. The MSSD should not merely remain a vision, but it should incorporate goals, measurable targets, time frames and indicators. However, these should be sufficiently flexible to secure their implementation.
- 8. In preparing the Strategy, it is necessary to be ambitious, aim high and to convey a strong political message, highlighting when necessary the need for political and institutional reform.
- 9. A substantive document in an advanced stage of preparation should be ready preferably for adoption by the next meeting of the Contracting Parties in November 2005, in Slovenia.

- 10. The expertise of the Regional Activity Centres and the studies and reports already available should be used in order to avoid duplication of efforts and save human and financial resources. The Coordinating Unit should have the flexibility to enable it to set up working groups or hire consultants as it sees fit. MAP components should be responsible for the finalization of the strategic objective sheets and the preparation of the MSSD. Consequently, no advisory group or further institutional structures are required. Moreover, the participants to the meeting are requested to send their comments and inputs on the thematic notes and the preparation of the MSSD before the end of September 2004, the latest.
- 11. Regarding the "financing and cooperation" issue, it was considered a timely and useful tool for the preparation of the MSSD, for the funding of sustainable development in the Mediterranean and lobbying for more funding, in particular from the EU.
- 12. Existing mechanisms need to be reformed, where appropriate, and imaginative and innovative measures should be adopted involving civil society and economic partners and including decentralized financial cooperation. The (comparative) lack of investment in the Mediterranean, the fact that debt conversion was not sufficiently tied to sustainable development and the issue of migrant remittances were all broad issues that should be considered for such treatment.
- 13. The work programme as proposed should be seen as a basic blueprint for action in the period ahead, allowing for all due flexibility to enable specific or new concerns to be reflected, pending review and revision in the light of the Strategy. Matters such as working modalities should be decided by the Secretariat, throughout the implementation of the programme and as appropriate depending on respective issue and existing capacities, while applying the approach of a technical session the first year and a policy one the second year. The Secretariat was requested to proceed with the proposed programme of work and method of work, bearing in mind that it would be re-assessed once the MSSD had been adopted.
- 14. The proposed Platform should be further pursued, in principle, with a flexible timetable so as to assess the possibility for promoting cooperation and synergy between regional actors for the benefit of the region and the beneficiary countries and partners. This issue would be re-assessed at a later stage depending on progress.
- 15. An indicative road map for the preparatory process of the MSSD was reviewed and endorsed.
- 16. The tenth meeting of the MCSD will be held in June 2005 (venue not yet defined), with the finalization of the MSSD documents as main item on its agenda.

ANNEXE I

9TH MEETING OF THE MEDITERRANEAN COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMEN, GENOA, ITALY 17-19 JUNE 2004

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9th Meeting of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD) Genoa, Italy, 17-19 June 2004 Agenda of the Meeting

	Thursday 17 June 2004	Friday 18 June 2004	Saturday 19 June 2004
0900-1100	S1: - Opening - Key note speeches - Election of the Steering Committee - Adoption of the Agenda - MSSD preparatory process: a. Progress Report; b. Vision and Framework Orientations	S5: Financing and cooperation for sustainable development in the Mediterranean Region: progress report from working group, main findings and first draft proposals	S9: Other Matters (cont)
1100-1130	Coffee Break	Coffee Break	Coffee Break
1130-1300	S2: - MSSD preparatory process, continued - Relevant information to MSSD; presentation of relevant information from the Mediterranean Report on Environment and Development by BP/RAC and from other MAP Components, together with information on SIA-MFTZ;	S6: Financing and cooperation for sustainable development in the Mediterranean Region: progress report from working group, main findings and first draft proposals (cont.)	S10: Adoption of report and closure of the meeting.
1300-1430	Lunch Break	Lunch Break- Side event Italy	Lunch Break
1430-1600	S3: - Relevant information on MSSD (cont.) - Review and finalization process of specific "thematic notes" for each of the Areas for Priority Actions	S7: - Structure and contents of the MSSD report MCSD programme of work for the next 4-5 years	
1600-1630	Coffee Break	Coffee Break	
1630-1800	S4: Review and finalization process of specific "thematic notes" for each of the Areas for Priority Actions;	S8: Other matters: a. MCSD Informal Inter Agency Platform; b. Progress on "Mediterranean Cultural Heritage and Sustainable Development"; c. Tenth MCSD	
1830-2000	Side Event /Italy	Side Event/ Baltic 21	

N.B. No break out sessions are foreseen; all agenda items are expected to be carried out in the plenary sessions.



Pourquoi ce « rendez-vous méditerranéen » à Marseille les 17 et 18 mai 2004 ?

- Pour répondre à la volonté du chef de l'Etat français : la France doit assumer ses responsabilités de pays méditerranéen
- Pour contribuer à l'élaboration d'une stratégie méditerranéenne de développement durable ambitieuse
- Une réunion de réflexion et d'expression libre pour accompagner les travaux du PAM et du PEM



Une réunion informelle d'experts de la société civile

- Une représentation de tous les pays méditerranéens par des personnalités engagées dans le développement durable, la science et le dialogue des cultures
- Pas de représentants de gouvernements mais de la société civile : intellectuels, ONG, entreprises...
- Certains intervenants qui sont impliqués dans les travaux de la CMDD



Organisation et déroulement de cette réunion

- Réunion organisée conjointement par les ministères de l'Ecologie et du Développement Durable et des Affaires Etrangères
- Conception confiée à l'Institut du Développement Durable et des Relations Internationales
- Des séances plénières : la parole donnée à de grands témoins
- Des tables-rondes : culture, solidarité économique, mer, gestion des territoires



Les messages délivrés

- Les difficultés pour la Méditerranée de s'appréhender en tant que région
- Des pressions croissantes sur l'environnement et des déséquilibres renforcés à l'horizon 2025 d'après le Plan Bleu
- Importance de l'éducation et de la formation : il faut promouvoir et favoriser les espaces de dialogues et d'échanges
- Reconnaître que les agendas et les préoccupations de l'UE et de la rive sud sont différents
- Le libre-échange n'est pas un instrument au service du développement : l'UE élargie devrait concevoir une véritable politique de co-développement



Quelques propositions des tablesrondes culture et solidarité économique

Création et diversité culturelle :

- Accroître la mobilité des hommes, des idées et des objets (expositions, livres...)
- Envisager un « plan bleu » pour la culture = un observatoire des pratiques et échanges culturels

Solidarité économique :

- Relancer les conversions de dette et les diriger vers des projets de recherche-développement
- Étudier la possibilité d'un accord régional d'investissement afin d'éviter la concurrence fiscale entre les pays méditerranéens
- Inclure un programme de formation du capital humain dans MEDA
- Soutenir le renforcement de la coopération entre collectivités locales



Quelques propositions des tablesrondes mer et territoires

Une mer commune :

- Etablir un centre de prévention des différends
- Élaborer une charte du pêcheur méditerranéen
- Renforcer les contrôles dans les pays du sud par une assistance technique et l'accès à des moyens aériens

Aménager les territoires :

- Poursuivre l'élaboration d'un protocole de gestion intégrée des zones côtières dans le cadre du PAM
- Examiner les meilleures pratiques en matière d'aménagement du territoire



Les conclusions du « rendez-vous méditerranéen »

- La société civile est indispensable à la mise en œuvre effective d'une stratégie de développement durable
- Nécessité de s'appuyer sur la seule enceinte de protection de la Méditerranée : le PAM
- Encouragement des pays du sud à se mobiliser pour renforcer leurs liens avec l'Union européenne dans le cadre du PEM



Quelles perspectives d'utilisation des enseignements de cette réunion ?

- Réalisation d'une synthèse et d'un numéro spécial diffusés en septembre prochain aux participants
- Une mise à disposition des enseignements au profit de la CMDD
- La France et les participants qui le souhaitent porteront les principes retenus dans le cadre des enceintes du PAM et du PEM

ANNEX IV

FRAMEWORK ORIENTATIONS FOR A MEDITERRANEAN STRATEGY FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Introduction

Orienting policies towards securing the foundation of a sustainable development for the world has become one of the main focus of international economic thinking. Since the Seventies of last century when the Club of Rome raised concern about the negative impact of consumption patterns on the preservation of natural resources, several important initiatives have contributed to promote the concept of sustainable development. The last one has been the Johannesburg Summit on Sustainable Development that took place in 2002.

The emergence of the concept of sustainable development

Since the early seventies, from Stockholm (1974) to Rio de Janeiro (1992) there has been an increasing awareness of the need to change the traditional view about the determinants of economic growth. Growth and progresses in economic well being achieved today should not impact negatively the opportunities of future generations. In consequence, the preservation of natural resources as a common heritage of Humanity has emerged as a major target of economic policies. This aim, however, cannot be successfully achieved without major economic and social changes both in the industrialized world and in the developing countries.

Since the Earth Summit, international and regional economic and financial cooperation has begun to adapt to the new principles and foundation of sustainable development. There is now a vast literature on sustainable development emanating from UN bodies and institutions, like UNDP and the World Bank or from the OECD Secretariat. Indicators of sustainable development are being developed and Directives to integrate sustainable development principles in Development assistance have been issued at OECD level and at a bilateral level by most national Development agencies. The international community and national governments are becoming more conscious of the costs involved in maintaining traditional trends in economic growth. The Millennium Declaration and the Johannesburg Summit have arrived at some quantified objectives for the next decades to preserve the environment and eradicate poverty.

Thus, in the last twenty years, major new economic and social orientations have emerged that now form the paradigm of sustainable development:

- Eradication of poverty by enlarging the access of the poor to education, production assets and facilities (land, credit, technical training, efficient technologies);
- Participation of stakeholders in decision-making (local bodies, NGOs, private sector and professional organizations);
- Promotion of adequate education and health systems, together with gender equilibrium;

- Changing consumption and production patterns to avoid wastage of resources and depletion of non renewable resources;
- Careful management of scarce resources (energy, water, forests, fisheries);
- Efficiency in industrial production to prevent major pollution impact, environmental catastrophes and preserve non-renewable resources;
- Safeguarding cultural identities.

Since the seventies, the overall trend has been rather worrying; however, there has been meanwhile an encouraging increase of positive and constructive actions.

Actions taken at the Mediterranean level

The Mediterranean region has begun to take action to enter into a sustainable development process since the middle seventies of last century, with in particular the Mediterranean Action Plan, the Barcelona Convention and the prospective analysis. This region is a fragile eco-region that has become aware of the pollution threat that originate from different factors as agriculture, mass tourism, the intensity of road and maritime traffic, increased urbanization. Several inter-State agreements were signed to deal with the various sources of sea pollution. The creation of the MCSD in 1996 was another important step towards developing a full-fledged strategy for sustainable development in the region. In addition, in spite of many progresses achieved in the field of health, education and standard of living, the persistence of an important development gap between various parts of the Mediterranean has increased the need for such a strategy. The establishment of the Barcelona process in 1995 and the initiative of the European Union to create a Mediterranean free-trade zone between its various shores have been an additional incentive to develop such a strategy, in spite of all constraints and challenges.

Efforts devoted in the last years to analyze the major constraints and challenges of implementing a sustainable development process in the Mediterranean region have been maturing to the point where orientations could now be defined within a coherent framework, proposed hereunder to the member States, together with a draft "Vision" defining the common challenges and goals of Mediterranean societies.

The present framework orientations have been progressively developed in the context of MAP and the MCSD through various studies and workshops. Their main conclusions are synthesized in this document.

How the Orientations have been developed

Thus, **Part I** constitute a synthesis of the various diagnostic studies prepared by the MCSD experts on natural resources, economic development and social equity, and on governance. It has taken into consideration the outcome of discussions held at the Barcelona Workshop (March 2003) and observations made by representatives of member States and Partners from Major Groups at the 8th meeting of the Commission held in Croatia in May 2003. It is also taking into consideration the various reports prepared by the Blue Plan concerning environment and development in various sectors of the Mediterranean economy, as well as other reports prepared by MAP components

and the most recent version of the Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA) and the EEA/MAP report on the State of the Environment of the Mediterranean.

Based on this overall diagnostic of the Mediterranean situation, **Part II** of the framework proceeds with defining the main challenges facing the Mediterranean region (multiplication of conflicts, increasing gap between the northern part of the Mediterranean region and its southern and eastern parts, trade liberalization and globalization, increasing sources of pollution). The main elements of the Vision Document are considered to be the appropriate support from which to define the main objectives of sustainable development policies in the region.

Part III of the framework identifies and describes the main actors and stakeholders of a SD process in the Mediterranean region (local bodies, NGOs, private and public sector companies, education institutions, professional bodies). The mobilization of such stakeholders and the implementation of governance principles on their behavior are key ingredients to implement successfully new policies conducive to sustainable development.

The framework, then, proceeds in **Part IV** to define the priority sectors where energetic intervention is needed to stop environmental degradation and wastage (water, transport, energy, urban and coastal developments) and to eradicate poverty, including progress in education, health and gender equilibrium.

The last part of the orientations, **Part V**, is devoted to identifying institutional and financial means needed to face the challenges and reach the objectives defined.

Definition of sustainable development and key role of governance

In the context of these orientations, the aim of sustainable development is to guarantee social justice by reducing poverty and its causes and preserving opportunities for future generations to enjoy natural resources, the cultural heritage and the physical capital that belong to the Mediterraneans, giving due consideration to the essence of the Bruntland definition: "meeting the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of the future generations to meet their needs".

Sustainable development implies the implementation of a process involving all the actors in economic and social development by instituting forms of dialogue intended to overcome the current inertia in unsustainable growth patterns. The process is designed to secure harmonious development benefiting all segments of the population, with the aim of changing present growth patterns responsible for the degradation of the cultural and physical heritage and the region's natural resources.

Through this process, the economic, social and cultural actors become more fully aware of the challenges that are posed at various levels in the society in which they live and of the ways to overcome them.

Governance in support of sustainable development processes involves the interplay of official (i.e. government) and non-official institutions, at levels ranging from global to regional and eco-regional, national and local.

Governance has a major role to play not only in providing the institutional underpinning for specific sustainable development objectives, but also in integrating, reconciling or offering trade-offs among different strategic imperatives: key social policies (in particular the alleviation of poverty), economic development (including productivity and employment), environmental management (with due regard to the interests of future generations), cultural integrity and the rule of law (which encompass human rights, legal and personal security and effective sphere of justice). It should also include access to information, justice and participative action, as embodied in the Aarhus Convention already accepted by a number of Mediterranean countries, and the revised Barcelona Convention (Articles 19 and 20)

It is to be noted, in that perspective, that the dynamics of institution-building or institutional reform called for by sustainable development should be driven not only by economic, but also by meta-economic (e.g. environmental, social and cultural) considerations.

Methodological approach

The process of designing a strategy for sustainable development implies a **systemic approach** taking into consideration all the links existing between wastage of scarce resources (water, energy, forests, arable land), the lack of adequate resource's management, inadequate transport systems, mass tourism, poverty and misuse of human resources, lack of R & D in specific fields relevant to environmental challenges in the Mediterranean region, absence of corporate citizenship, etc.

The process also implies a permanent effort for developing **forecasting and monitoring tools** to appraise future trends and prevent their negative impact on the Mediterranean.

Special attention should be given to improving consumption and production patterns that are not sustainable, especially in view of the convergence efforts between the various parts of the Mediterranean that are also part of the strategy to be designed.

In addition, specific attention should be devoted to the following links:

- Links between the long-term vision, the medium-term objectives, and short-term
- Horizontal intersectoral links in order to follow a coordinated approach to development.
- Vertical links in terms of space so that local, national, regional and global policies are consistent.
- Partnership among governments, business circles and voluntary organizations.

Shaping a strategic sustainable development path requires:

- an underlying vision that emerges through a consensual, effective and iterative process,
- the definition of objectives and the identification of the means of achieving them,
- the monitoring of achievements as a guide to the next round of this learning process.

A strategic approach to sustainable development implies new ways of thinking and working. The OECD-UNDP 2002 resource book remarks that a strategy comprises "a set of coordinated mechanisms and processes that, together, offer a participatory system to develop visions, goals and target for sustainable development, and to coordinate implementation and review." It is also accepted that a strategy cannot be a one-off initiative but needs to be a continuing participatory process, with an adequate follow-up to stimulate constant learning and continuous improvement. From the outset the process should involve different categories of Mediterranean actors that will be called on to endorse the strategy and thus contribute to its implementation.

The Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development should reflect responsible acceptance of the medium-term and long-term challenges, a clear commitment and solidarity at all levels (regional, national and local) in all fields (economic, social and environmental). It should also be wholly consistent with the Plan of Implementation of the Johannesburg Summit, adapting it to the Mediterranean context and putting it into effect at the regional level.

The strategy will pay special attention to **governance** because the sustainable development of Mediterranean States implies the conscious implementation of efforts to promote consultation mechanisms and participatory approach through the decision making process and establish significant levels of coordinated and collective action. This is why **shared political will** is needed for any collective action in a region where inequalities are great and where security and cooperation are not yet adequately secured.

Building the capacity for governance at all levels will have to be an integral part of the process of designing and implementing the sustainable development strategy. This will be the more so that Mediterranean societies need to secure their citizens' well being on a lasting basis. But actors and stakeholders will have to be made conscious of the nature of their choices in managing their natural and physical assets and the long-term consequences of such choices made by individuals, enterprises, local authorities, educational institutions, local bodies and governments.

The strategic orientations must be elaborated despite all the uncertainties with existing available information, all the gaps existing in the analysis of the Mediterranean system, and the evaluation of the external and internal variables that affect it. They will make it possible to have a global prospective understanding of the Mediterranean system, focusing on permanently monitoring the relationship between environment and development through specific indicators.

The strategy should be the main tool to incorporate sustainable development as a **common value** in all the Mediterranean's diverse cultural traditions. In order to achieve this, it will have to be explicitly based on the ethical principles of sustainable development and on a shared vision of the future as proposed in this document.

Part I: Diagnostic of Mediterranean economic and social imbalances and its consequences on the overall physical and human resources

The Mediterranean region suffers from various social, economic and environmental imbalances. These imbalances have a negative impact on the environment and the preservation of the Mediterranean patrimony. In addition, several conflicts and situations of violence continue to affect the lives of millions of Mediterraneans.

The Mediterranean region in the World economy

Although standards of living have tremendously increased during the last century in all parts of the Mediterranean, the economic performance of the Mediterranean region in the World economy has been rather limited, unbalanced between its various parts and weak compared to other dynamic regions of the world. The trend towards growing economic globalization after the fall of the Soviet Union and the creation of the European Union, allowed the northern part of the Mediterranean to be successfully integrated in the European and world economy. However, this was not the case of the Eastern and Southern parts that suffered from many armed conflicts and situations of violence, while high population growth in many countries is putting pressure on the few resources of these countries.

The main features of the asymmetry existing between its different parts

The Mediterranean region today is characterized by a sharp asymmetry between its two parts, the European Union countries and the other Mediterranean countries:

- The distribution of the population around the Mediterranean and its structure have much evolved. From about 1/3 of the total Mediterranean population in 1950, the countries of the East and South are expected to reach 2/3 in 2025. Moreover, the population in the European countries is getting older whereas the majority is below 20 years in the rest of the region.
- In the North, standard of living has increased to almost reach the level of the more developed part of Europe. At the same time, mass tourism, heavy maritime transport activities, pollution of the main large rivers that end in the sea, are putting heavy ecological pressure on this part of the region and mainly on the coastal areas. The conditions of the enlargement of the European Union to Mediterranean countries in the framework of a single market illustrated this duality between, on the one hand, economic and social coherence and, on the other, the diffusion of new ecological problems related to the adoption in Member States of patterns of consumption, production, distribution and transport that are not sustainable.
- In the South, standard of living tends to stagnate at a low level (between \$ 2 000 and \$ 4 000 of GDP per capita as against \$ 18 000 per capita in the North,). Economic activities are highly dependent on low-level traditional services; manufacturing activities are neither developed nor competitive; population growth, although on the decline, is still very high. Mass tourism and high dependency of the transportation system on cars and trucks create additional pressure on the natural resources and ecological balances. Although GDP per

capita in the Eastern part of the Mediterranean is higher on average than in the Southern part, the conflicts in the Balkans have levied a heavy toll on standard of living and GDP per capita. To the exception of Greece successfully integrated in the European Union, and Israel and Cyprus, GDP per capita is still much lower than in the North.

In addition to the gap in income, another indicator of the deep asymmetry
affecting the Mediterranean region is the distribution of exports. Eighty five per
cent of exports and eighty percent of imports are due to three northern countries
(France, Italy and Spain). In addition, the region suffers from structural trade
deficits affecting all countries to the exception of Italy and France, as well as
Libya and Algeria, which are energy-exporting countries.

These asymmetries will not be reduced unless a big effort is done to bring drastic changes in growth patterns both in the North and the South and East. Even with an optimistic projection of a decline in the population growth from an average of 2% to 1.24% in the Maghreb, and 1.39% in the Machrek countries, and with an average annual economic growth of 4.2% for the developing countries of the region, the differences in GDP per capita will continue to present a huge gap.

Financial distress and insufficient financial flows

In terms of financial flows, countries in the Southern and Eastern shores have been suffering from negative debt flows (34.7 billion US dollars from 1990 to 2000). In spite of debt relief and rescheduling benefiting to some countries (Egypt, Morocco, Algeria, Jordan), the stock of long term foreign debt of the southern ad eastern Mediterranean countries (excluding Israel, Cyprus and Malta) have almost tripled between 1980 and 2000 from the level of 65 billion dollars to the level of 167 billion. Yearly debt service has increased from \$ 14.3 billion in 1980 to \$ 31.4 billion in 1990 and to \$ 39.2 billion in 2000.

The level of net investment flows has been quite low in general; a few countries have enjoyed more substantial levels of foreign investments, but such level remains much lower than other regions of the developing world. In addition, a large part of Official Development Assistance is concentrated on a few strategic countries; another important part of the aid is devoted to alleviating the suffering caused by the many conflicts of the region. In fact, a large number of Mediterranean countries are characterized by some form of financial distress. The high level of remittances that many countries receive from their migrant's workers is cushioning this distress. Without this cushion, large parts of the Mediterranean would be under more duress.

It is to be noted here that the share of the European Union in the total net disbursement of financial resources to Mediterranean countries has increased from 40% in 1995 to 61% in 2000. This shows the importance of the Mediterranean partnership in the economic life of the region.

The rent economy and its negative impact

Many Mediterranean economies are still dependent on different types of rents (export of raw materials or of energy, access to special maritime facilities like the Suez Canal, migrants' remittances, ODA, tourism being also in a way a rent revenue accruing from the exploitation of the sun, the sea and the rich archeological heritage of the region). State and State entities are still playing a major role in the economic life of many countries, while private sector companies are not stimulated by the existence of a competitive environment but rather strive to maintain various forms of protection from the State. Commercial banks, either private or government owned, continue to have a quasi-monopoly of savings that are not always efficiently mobilized to stimulate growth and secure sustainability in investment patterns.

In most cases, rent economies hinder innovation and creativity and make the economy totally dependent on exogenous factors. The expansion of unemployment resulting from the lack of innovation and competitiveness is responsible for large flows of migration, including an important brain drain that is very detrimental to sustainable economic growth, in addition to those leaving for poverty and insecurity reasons. It also distorts income distribution by concentrating wealth in the hands of small groups able to take advantage of the rent while eradication of poverty and illiteracy become more difficult. It might also become an obstacle to democratization and the rule of law.

It is to be noted that substantial pockets of poverty and exclusion have also affected the northern part of the Mediterranean. The present low growth rate in most EU countries does not help solving this problem.

In fact, without more growth and income generation in the region, it will be very difficult for it to attain the objectives of the Millennium goals and the Johannesburg Summit.

The common ecological problems

The asymmetry in itself does not prevent the fact that common ecological problems do exist and have to be dealt with. The resident population of the Mediterranean countries has jumped from 246 million in 1960 to 427 million in the year 2000. Urbanization, overcrowding in coastal regions, evolution of consumption patterns, intensive agriculture, mass tourism, and unrestricted coastal area development combine to assault the natural environment-marine, terrestrial and water resources. These factors interact to cause pollution loads that endanger people's quality of life. Pollution hot spots are typically found in coastal areas with semi-enclosed gulfs and bays near important harbors, big cities and industrial areas. They constitute a major Mediterranean problem and a potential threat.

An important quantity of untreated wastewater and many toxic substances are discharged into the semi-enclosed Mediterranean Sea, as shown in the MAP/EEA report and the TDA. Transport and industries cause atmospheric pollution that is damaging human health, nature and archaeological sites. Increasing sea transportation of oil and hazardous materials poses threats of accidental pollution. The delicate Mediterranean ecosystem is disturbed in a variety of ways from the contamination of fish by industrial effluents to the destruction of the habitats of endangered species by tourism.

Many plant species have disappeared while others are endangered and there is a constant decrease in the numbers of land and marine mammals, as well as the invasion of exogenous marine species, to the detriment of remarkable biological diversity.

The development of coasts and coastal plains for the purpose of urban, tourism and industrial expansion has led to an imbalance and a gradual concentration of the population, infrastructure and economic activities along the coast, to the detriment of the interior.

The Governance issue

Dealing with all these problems requires a much larger degree of governance at the local, national and regional level. The concept of governance is not yet adequately grasped in the region as in most part of the world.

The Mediterranean region is generally characterized by rather strong central governments, limited decentralization (eventhough well advanced in few countries and progressing in others) and a weak but increasing role of the civil society. Regular consultations and cooperation between the public and the private sectors is not yet a common practice. Moreover, regional organizations cooperate only occasionally. In this context, promoting en efficient governance in the Mediterranean requires a lot of awareness, willingness and concerted efforts.

Governance is a positive, descriptive, analytical concept, not a normative one. It should not be understood as a normative pretension to impose a political or administrative model to less developed countries. It is neither government nor governing, it is a far larger concept embracing networks or interrelationships between strategic actors, governmental, non governmental, economic, social, cultural, religious... Any actor having a "veto power" or whose contribution is required to attain sustainable development has to be considered as part of the governance structure. This structure refers also to the patterns of interaction (that could be more or less institutionalized) that arises from the functioning of a governance structure.

Institutions and capacities implied by the concept of governance go beyond democracy. In fact, governance is an approach to development. It refers to the institutional arrangements and capacities required to produce sustainable development.

Implementation of governance principles will have to be an essential part of the strategy for sustainable development. It will represent a new venue to try to cope with the main challenges facing the Mediterranean, i.e. a better and more efficient management of water, energy and land resources, as well as a more adequate transport system and urban management.

The preservation of the archeological treasures and the variety of cultures in the Mediterranean area is an additional dimension to be taken into consideration. In this respect, consumption and production patterns as well as mass tourism and the concentration of the population on the coastal areas constitute many negative factors that have to be dealt with in defining the strategy for sustainable development.

Part II. Identification of the main challenges

No strategy for sustainable development can achieve results if it does not properly identify the nature of the challenges it has to confront. It must also identify the main actors that can help in coping with the challenges. The diagnostic mentioned earlier has opened the way to identify two main cross-sectoral challenges and several specific challenges.

<u>Cross sectoral challenges: breaking the vicious circle of asymmetry and lack of economic dynamism</u>

The two cross-sectoral challenges are constituted by the wide asymmetry existing between the various parts of the Mediterranean on one hand, and the lack of economic dynamism and innovation and lack of free competition on the other.

In fact, these two challenges are linked together, since the reduction of asymmetries requires more dynamism and innovative activities. But such dynamism to be adequately activated needs a global view on how to reduce the asymmetries and several actions to be taken in this direction.

The asymmetry can be a source of profits to private companies making business together on both shores of the Mediterranean and which take advantage of the asymmetry as it creates a protected environment for them. In the long term, however, we know that it is the whole Mediterranean economy who is the loser, as the full potential of the region for dynamic and sustainable growth is not being adequately tapped.

To fully exploit the growth potential of the region, there are several prerequisites:

- Employment opportunities and income generation should increase at much higher rates in the poor parts of the Mediterranean, within the objectives of sustainable development.
- This would require a much higher level of productive investments in the poorer part of the Mediterranean by nationals, emigrant business communities and European and international companies.
- The increase in the level of investment could reduce the brain drain that affects these parts of the Mediterranean so that management capacity and productivity could be substantially raised in the less developed economies.

This is the kind of **virtuous circle** that should be created and that could contribute to stimulating innovation and entrepreneurship as well as reducing the big economic and social gap dividing the various parts of the Mediterranean.

In fact the biggest Mediterranean challenge consist of breaking off the **vicious circle** of everlasting asymmetry and lack of dynamism and innovation described earlier in the diagnostic section.

 This vicious circle maintains an overall economic sluggishness in the Mediterranean region. This sluggishness creates a lack of financial resources devoted to preserving the environment and the patrimony of the Mediterranean cultures that are one of the great assets of the region.

This is why there could be no sustainable development process without a clear strategy to break the vicious circle and enter in a different pattern of economic and social policies that would generate enough human and financial resources to tackle the various problems affecting the Mediterranean, its natural resources, its environment and its patrimony.

However, considering the Mediterranean geopolitical context, promoting sustainable development requires Peace and Security in the Region. Although economic and social development is not always dependent on a peaceful environment, as demonstrated by many historical experiences (from the Renaissance period in Europe to Napoleonic wars and to the experience of East Asia tigers that took place in the context of acute military conflict), the Mediterranean region has suffered of continuous conflicts and political and social destabilization erupting since the end of the XIXth Century in its different shores or in its immediate proximity.

Today displacement of population, political instability and civil wars are still affecting some parts of the region and contribute to the degradation of its wealth and patrimony. It is an additional cause for emigration to the northern shore under the worst conditions.

Although this challenge is purely political, there is no doubt that reaching peaceful solutions to domestic or regional disturbances and upheavals could be substantially eased by planning and implementing the actions needed to face the other challenges of economic and social nature.

Specific sub-challenge issues

Several sub-challenges issues could be identified to properly tackle the main challenge of creating an urgently needed virtuous circle securing economic and social dynamism and reducing the various gaps affecting the Mediterranean.

We could multiply the number of these sub-challenges, but we have focused here on the most urgent ones. As for the main cross-sectoral challenges, these sub-challenges are interlinked and complement each other. They should be faced with coherent policies coping with each of them at the same level of political importance and mobilization of domestic or regional financial resources.

1. The globalization challenge

No doubt that the Mediterranean region has not taken advantage of the globalization drive in the world economy as it has been the case for other regions of the world (China, India and South East Asia in particular, but also parts of Latin America).

As it is well known, the Northern parts of the Mediterranean and Greece have taken advantage of their integration in the European Union and benefited from large amount of transfer of financial resources. However, this is not yet the case for the

other parts. It is true that through the Barcelona process and MEDA programme, the European Union has contributed large amounts of humanitarian aid to conflict zones and increased loans and grants for infrastructure or economic reform. But these transfers do not match the amount of flows disbursed to concretize the single market and reduce regional asymmetries between the richer and more industrialized parts of Western Europe and the poorer and less dynamic parts.

As a result, many Mediterranean economies might not be ready yet to take advantage of free trade and globalization and some countries are exposed to more unemployment and social pain as their economies are being opened.

What is required to face this challenge is not a return to protectionist policies, but the identification of bold policies to stimulate the production capacity of the concerned countries and their competitiveness within the framework of mobilizing fully all available human and financial resources of the local population and its entrepreneurial talents both at home and abroad. In this context, the Mediterranean countries that have not yet completed the process of adhering to the WTO should accelerate their efforts. Their support to the Doha Declaration is needed as this document has recognized most emerging economies' problems in their relations with highly industrialized countries. As will be suggested here under the challenge of Mediterranean cooperation, more efforts should be devoted at promoting specific Mediterranean assets and goods, in particular in the field of agro-industries based on specific Mediterranean agricultural produce.

2. The poverty and illiteracy challenge

No sustainable development will be reached in the Mediterranean without poverty reduction and eradication of illiteracy. All newly industrialized countries devoted spectacular and constant efforts to reach this goal. Illiteracy in the Mediterranean is directly conducive to poverty and exclusion and prevents any substantial increase in the overall productivity of the economy.

The electronic revolution and modern teaching technique should be made use of without delays in rural areas as well as in poor urban suburbs. Social pride and entrepreneurial talents of the Mediterranean people are not compatible with such large pockets of illiteracy, mainly concerning women. The situation has reached a point where large numbers of Mediterranean poor put their lives at risk to cross the sea in the most dangerous situation to migrate to the European shore where they hope to improve their miserable condition.

Suppressing illiteracy improves public health and dealing efficiently with the causes of poverty will liberate additional productive energies that are badly needed to break the vicious circle of lack of dynamism.

3. The challenge of reforming the education sector

It is a well-known fact that, with few exceptions, education sectors in the Mediterranean region are not adapted to the needs of the economies. Vocational

training in industry and agriculture is not developed to an appropriate level. Educational institutions are not interacting with the private sector and not encouraged to develop research capacities in the various fields of modern technologies. The best Universities devote their efforts to concluding arrangements with prestigious foreign universities so that their students will be easily accepted abroad to continue higher studies. In fact, this is encouraging the brain drain.

In addition, the existence of large pockets of illiteracy indicate that the educational sector is not yet able to absorb all the needs. Special attention should be given to girls and women education in rural areas and to more educational facilities in the poor urban areas.

4. The challenge of competitiveness in the private sector

As already mentioned, local private sector companies are not developing in a competitive environment. Formal large companies take advantage of many types of hidden protection granted by the State or the large Public Enterprises. They do not devote significant resources to R & D to increase productivity and develop their management and technical capabilities. They tend to rely on foreign partners to supply them with production process and trademarks.

Small and micro-enterprises have enormous difficulties in accessing the banking system and developing their skills and capacities.

Thus, the reform of the private sector is a challenge as big as the reform of the public sector. Up to now, all the emphasis have been put on downsizing and reforming the State and privatizing Public Enterprises, but an equal challenge is that of up-grading the productive capacities of all segments of the private sector. In this context, more efforts should be devoted to promoting micro-credits and credits to small size enterprises. Funds should be made available to promote innovation and the creation of new business ventures among the young university graduates and potential entrepreneurs without personal wealth.

5. The challenge of improving the management of natural resources and reducing the sources of pollution

This challenge is to be sub-divided in several actions to be taken in different interrelated fields. The systemic approach here is a must, given the links existing between the different sources of degradation of natural resources and pollution and their cumulative effects.

- Improving management of water resources is linked to improving agricultural technique, urban distribution of water, recycling of used waters, better industrial management of water consuming.
- Energy savings and control of air pollution are linked to better transport services not dependent totally on roads and individual cars, better industrial management, better housing constructions, the development of renewable sources of energy.

- Concentration of population in coastal areas is dependent on designing and implementing strictly land use plans favoring other areas through different tools. It is also dependent on making life more attractive in rural areas and creating employment opportunities in these areas, but also on developing rural tourism to decrease the intensity of tourist activities in the coastal areas already over-urbanized.
- Action to combat land-based pollution of the marine environment presupposes the development of effective administrative, technical and financial capacities to cope with the considerable investments required and the management of water treatment infrastructure.
- The production of an increasing volume of industrial and urban waste, and its treatment, has become a major challenge for large urban centres, tourist areas, and particularly islands, and also now for rural areas.

6. The challenge of integrating Sustainable Development in Official Development Assistance and of up-grading Mediterranean cooperation

This is the last big sub-challenge where substantial efforts will have to be devoted to break with traditional tools of ODA and to find additional resources for regional cooperation in the Mediterranean region.

Multilateral and bilateral funding institutions are already devoting efforts to take into consideration environmental issues, but sustainable development issues remain rather theoretical and have not yet been integrated in the various tools of cooperation.

As for Mediterranean regional cooperation, there is now a high degree of recognizing the need to up-grade it to the level of the challenges facing the Mediterranean. "Mediterranean" commercial labels could be developed between firms from the countries of the region to protect traditional food consumption patterns. The EU could help in establishing a "Mediterranean preference", compatible with the rules of the WTO. More co-development between private sector firms, education institutions, local bodies could be developed to reinforce the various channels of Mediterranean cooperation and orient actions and processes towards more innovation, economic dynamism and more aggressive social policies.

Cooperation policies should be adapted to the specific problems of each beneficiary country or sub-region of the Mediterranean.

More financial resources are to be made available to boost the activities of the specialized institutions created in the framework of the EU, UN institutions and their Regional Offices/Programmes, among which UNEP/MAP, and entrust hem with adequate human and financial resources.

Part III. Identification and involvement of the actors and stakeholders needed to secure SD in the Mediterranean region

Overcoming the contradictory theoretical positions on the role of the State by the governance approach

Emphasis has been traditionally focused in the Mediterranean region on the exclusive role of the State as the key actor in the process of economic development. For many years during the sixties and the seventies of last century, State intervention and the creation of Public enterprises were looked upon as the principle engine of growth and economic and social development.

Since the eighties, Central Governments and Public sector remained the center of the focus but within a reversed approach. Growth and development would now be stimulated by reducing the role of the State in the economy and in the distribution of income and by downsizing the Public sector through privatizing its large commercial or industrial entities and its public services.

Nowadays, according to new approaches in sustainable development and governance, it is realized that to create new growth patterns requires the participation of all concerned stakeholders and actors of economic and social life. Such new patterns should be respectful of the environment and of the patrimony and the variety of cultures and should target the eradication of poverty and greater innovation and dynamism.

As already mentioned, instituting governance requires a capacity-building effort to create the appropriate institutional framework where all segments of the society are integrated in a permanent dialogue on how to improve economic and social conditions. Through this process, each actor or stakeholder becomes more conscious of its responsibilities and more able to participate in and take advantage of sustainable development policies. This is why the identification of stakeholders and their interests, relations and powers is a basic component of the analytical basis of any strategy.

It is important to identify "marginalized stakeholders or actors" that have big potential to affect or be affected by policies, but have little power to influence in the decision-making process. In such cases the strategy should consider means of empowerment of these groups in order to gain positive leverage and to socially balance the process of decision-making.

In this respect, it is also important to enlarge the traditional identification of main actors for SD that tends to be restricted in LDCs to Governments, NGOs and International Cooperation institutions. The following list of actors/stakeholders is an attempt to enlarge the SD focus, which is badly needed in the context of the specific challenges identified for the Mediterranean region. Moreover, adequate and operational mechanisms should be identified and applied for the promotion of multistakeholders approach and joint programmes of activities towards sustainable development.

Focusing on key actors that are not yet integrated in the process of sustainable development

1. Local bodies

The importance of local bodies has been recently put in focus as a key component of the SD process. Many examples of good practices of sustainable development have been taking places in some countries at the local level. Building development capacities begins at the local level. Close to ground, dialogue between the local actors and stake- holders, planning and action implementation are easier to conduct than at the national level.

Decentralization of Government activities is now being practiced in many countries. For some of them, it has been the key to high growth and the development of competitive capacity. It also allows better protection of the environment.

In certain Mediterranean countries, autonomy granted to regions has been quite successful; aid provided to the poorer regions in the EU countries has been an important factor of reduced asymmetries inside each country and between countries. However, granting more autonomy should go along with adequate regulations and monitoring of the decentralization process so as to limit and control possible risks for the preservation of the environment. In other countries, there is still a very strong centralization of policymaking at the Central Government level and a strict control of the Ministry of Interior on all local initiatives.

Multilateral financial institutions are rightly insisting on fiscal decentralization so that regions and municipal bodies could enjoy enough responsibilities and financial resources with the necessary capacities to mobilize and use them. More spending and taxation should take place at the local level according to priorities and needs as defined by local stakeholders and actors of local development. Whatever planning capacity is mobilized at the level of the Central Government, it could not replace the in-depth knowledge and experience of those living and working in the various regions.

Central Governments should not decide on issues related to local development, but rather defined the framework and principles through which fiscal decentralization is to be conducted and regulated.

Decentralization is more or less advanced in the Mediterranean countries but it is generally progressing. Associating the Local Authorities in the Sustainable Development process, in particular through Local Agenda 21, is extremely important and the experience of the MEDCITES network could provide a valuable support, eventhough a lot still needs to be done in this context

2. Non-Governmental Organizations

In recent years, the role of NGOs in promoting sustainable development awareness has been well promoted at the international level, however their role in the Mediterranean remains weak compared to the role played by some large NGOs in

other regions of the world that have developed a strong lobbying capacity attracting media attention.

Mediterranean NGOs lack funding and are, thus, too much depending on foreign aid. In some countries, they are influenced or controlled or even used by the Government. NGOs should not only be viewed as being lobbying institutions in favor of key issues of SD or humanitarians institutions.

Since 1980 and mainly 1990, the Mediterranean NGOs have improved their organization and increased their role and impact on issues mainly related to awareness for environmental protection. Some NGOs have been also quite active in developing micro-credits schemes, communal development, support to women in rural areas or poor urban areas. It is expected that this role will increase in the future.

Several networks have been established, such as MIO-ECSDE, Medforum and RAED, or NGOs such as IUCN, FOE, and WWF have established Mediterranean Offices. Considering the challenges to be overcome by the Mediterranean region, the NGOs could have an important role to play as partners in promoting Sustainable Development, in particular awareness and specific actions on the front of poverty reduction and more balance between genders. They could also become an important tool in developing more awareness to improve production and consumption patterns.

3. Educational institutions

Such institutions play a key role in any process of economic development. By their function, they are a major actor, while they users will become the key young stakeholders that will be in charge of managing and developing their country in the future.

Focus has not yet been put on educational institutions, as already mentioned when analyzing challenges; they are in need of great reform in most Mediterranean countries to become more adapted to the needs of sustainable development.

In this respect, educational institutions should become more accountable in terms of devoting efforts to reduce unemployment of their students. Performance criteria of education institutions should be adapted to the challenges of Sustainable development.

Thus, the performance appraisal of higher education institutions should not be restricted to monitoring the ratio of students who succeed in their examinations and/or the number of available majors. But they should become accountable for the number of students that find employment in a short period of time in the field they have studied. Head of institutions should link with the business sector, the local bodies, NGOs, multinational companies, and devote more efforts to mobilizing resources for R & D and the creation of laboratories that would be of use in all sectors of the economy.

Primary and secondary education should also be strengthened so that poor strata of the population and in particular young girls could have an easy access to good quality education. Such education should also be geared towards training students of both genders to become more aware of social and economic responsibilities and aware of the need for governance and accountability for the welfare of their society. Respect for the environment, knowledge of detrimental consumption patterns, promotion of the various cultures of their countries and their neighboring Mediterranean countries should be included in the school's curriculum.

Building partnerships and active networks between universities and research centers with the objectives of capacity building, exchange of experience and transfer/acquisitions of know-how/technologies would be a tremendous contribution to sustainable development. Existing relevant cooperations through Euro Med and Euro Arab programmes should be valued, such as the networks of Universities and Euro Arab Management School (EAMS).

4. Private sector and Business Associations

In the Mediterranean region, business activities (whether conducted by the private sector or the public sector) are not yet considered as the key to sustainable development. The tendency in the Mediterranean overall cultural environment is to consider that the State is almost exclusively responsible for lagging economic growth, increasing unemployment and poverty, degradation caused to the environment, as well as different forms of corruption.

Although highly developed countries have developed many institutions and principle to make the business community more accountable of its performance and more conscious of its social responsibilities, including the preservation of the environment, this is not yet enough the case in the Mediterranean region. The social responsibility of private economic entrepreneurs (companies, rich families, land owners, bankers, etc.) is not yet adequately acknowledged. Business ethics and corporate citizenship, in particular in relation to the UN/Global Compact initiative and its principles are not yet taken into consideration by all levels of the Mediterranean Business communities.

The private sector and business associations are however showing increasing interest to the Sustainable Development concerns and principles. Even though a lot still needs to be achieved in this context, more and more Mediterranean business actors are in the process of integrating environment concerns and Sustainable Development principles in their long term plans, such as ICC at global, regional and national levels , ASCAME, the Maghreb Business Union. Companies (either private or public) should be encouraged to seek the latest ISO certification for their activities and products, and professional associations could play an important catalyzing role.

Priority as partners should be given to companies and associations that have effectively integrated (or explicitly intend to do so) the approach of sustainable development and what it implies in terms of responsibility, ethics, environment protection and governance. To that end, it is important to identify and implement specific projects that would demonstrate the feasibility, usefulness and benefits of such partnerships. In this context, ICC network and its commitments to sustainable development could constitute an interesting partner.

Part IV. Areas for priority actions

Systemic analysis shows the relations among the environmental components and patterns of consumption, industrial activities and economic growth. This type of analysis as done by the Blue Plan/RAC for the elaboration of scenarios, is now well developed for the Mediterranean region and it is, thus, possible to define priority areas for action.

The priorities selected for the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development are related to the analyses contained in the Environment and development draft report currently being prepared by the Blue Plan/RAC and the TDA as well as the principal issues raised and dealt with by MAP II and the MCSD during its first operational period, including its sets of thematic recommendations and proposals for action.

They include issues arising at the regional and subregional levels which are common but the gravity of which varies according to the ecological and socio-economic situation, and which require common action and/or cooperation programmes, as well as national and local strategies.

Sustainable management of water

The Mediterranean region is not adequately endowed with water resources. Although available water resources differ greatly from country to country, their degradation has already reached such an extent that it is modifying the regime or quality of resources and increasing the gap between needs and resources. The infiltration of saltwater has become virtually irreversible and widespread in coastal aquifers. Polluting waste of urban or industrial origin is increasing, affecting the quality of freshwater and the marine environment.

The evaluations and projections established by the Blue Plan have shed light on the increasingly scarce water resources per capita in a large number of countries in the region; the pollution of surface waters and the deterioration in the quality of underground waters are becoming issues of concern. The pressure of human activity on aquatic ecosystems is becoming increasingly unsustainable.

The major consumer of water in volume terms is irrigation, followed by urban consumption, then industrial use, while environmental demand is emerging. Given the high rate of population growth and urbanization that will continue to prevail in the next two decades, urban consumption will become increasingly important in the future. Further more, if growth rate are accelerated, which is badly needed in the region, industry will be also using more water.

This is why a more efficient planning effective management of water demand and available water resources is badly needed in the Mediterranean region, with emphasis on recycling used water, more water saving irrigation technique, renovation of distribution systems to avoid water losses.

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The strategy will build on the findings of the MCSD (with priority on the issue of water demand), as well as analysing the potential and limits of the development of non-traditional resources (desalination, reuse of treated waste water).

It will be based on the current channels of cooperation in the region and particularly the MCSD, and the issue of water demand, Type II GWP MED initiatives on the EUROMED water and poverty facility, and EU/Greece on the MED EU Water Initiative.

It will ensure links with the European Union Water Framework Directive and encourage an approach based on watershed areas. It will deal with issues of domestic, industrial and agricultural pollution in relation with the implementation of the LBS Protocol and the SAP.

Energy

Demand for energy is also running high in the Mediterranean region. The sources of this demand are to be found in the electricity generation systems which remains highly dependent on fossil fuels, long distance transportation system highly depend on roads and planes and, thus, using intensively liquid fuels, intensive urbanization with urban transport means also depending on fossil fuels and industry.

Energy savings in industry, construction, electricity production and transport are not very developed. The cost of installing saving devices and managing energy more efficiently is considered an additional financial burden by private entrepreneurs and public and private companies operating in the various sectors of the economy. There is fear that such costs would be an additional factor of reduced competitivity for Mediterranean products and services on one hand, and of less profits for the business communities on the other hand.

Use of renewable energy sources, such as solar and wind energy, is not very developed, and the amount of financial and human resources devoted to R & D to innovate in tapping these sources for larger consumer's use is weak or negligible in most cases. Although clean gas resources are available in the region, intra-Mediterranean distribution networks are not properly developed. Moreover, Energy consumption patterns and mismanagement of its use are responsible for the degradation of the quality of air.

The strategy will be designed to implement realistic objectives for greater efficiency in the intensity of energy use and will set objectives for the improvement of the efficient use of energy.

Air pollution

Air pollution results not only from inefficient energy use and the transportation systems that are too much dependent on roads and vehicles and trucks, but also from rapid urbanization, lack of adequate and environmentally friendly waste treatments facilities and from environmentally clean production facilities. In many cases, there are no regular

monitoring of air pollution in many cities or regions of the Mediterranean together with communication and exchange of relevant information, a situation that has to be remedied promptly in any strategy for sustainable development.

The strategy will take into account the objectives of the Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Kyoto Protocol and the Vienna Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution (UN-ECE) and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation.

It will address problems relating to the implementation of cooperation and market instruments envisaged by the Kyoto Protocol, including cleaner development mechanisms

The Strategy will identify specific partnerships for energy and air pollution issues, particularly in relation to bilateral and multilateral financing in support of objectives, especially in Euro-Mediterranean countries and reconstruction programmes for the Balkans.

Towards a Sustainable Tourism

The beauty of the landscapes and sea shores, the prestigious historical sites and the wealth of the cultural heritage, have led to many coastal leisure developments characterized by a high degree of "cementing", creating pollution and threatening the coastal ecosystems balances. This kind of development is jeopardizing the sustainability of the tourism sector, the Mediterranean being the world's prime tourist destination. However, tourism is mainly Euro-Mediterranean and relies to a great extent on tour operators who enjoy a virtual monopoly in the tourists' home countries. The absence of any long-term commitment to the destination countries by these operators means that it is not easy to preserve tourist areas from the pressures exerted on the sites.

The sustainability of the tourism sector will have to take into account the impact of pollution and coastal development on environment. Competing countries have been unable to get together to establish a better relationship between tourism and sustainable development. The degradation affecting the common Mediterranean heritage is, thus, not only the effect but also the cause of unsatisfactory development that is inequitably shared and lacks the sustainability that it should have. An adequate regional cooperation mechanism would contribute to a coherent management and development of tourist flows

Data on national and international tourism show a continued increase in tourism to Mediterranean countries with a concentration on coastal regions and an extension to new destinations.

Based on the work of the WTO and the MCSD, and the recommendations of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership, the Strategy should set out objectives and identify action processes in the following fields:

 the diversification of tourist destinations based on a better exploitation of the cultural and natural heritage;

- the promotion of land use planning, tourism carrying capacity assessments and impact studies to facilitate environmentally-friendly tourism;
- the conclusion by the enterprises concerned of the voluntary environmental agreements (UNEP) including the contribution of tourism enterprises to the management of protected sites.

Sustainable Transport in the Mediterranean

Given its tourism attractiveness and its geographical location at the crossroads of three continents, the Mediterranean has a remarkable comparative advantage for travel and transport. This is why these activities account for 60 per cent of foreign trade in services around the Mediterranean. The intensity of road and air traffic has been mentioned earlier as a main source of air pollution that adds to sea pollution by the maritime transportation system.

But as commercial vessels from all over the world go through the Mediterranean, there is a constant threat from the 300 oil tankers that often knowingly empty out their ballast. The danger of oil spills of crude petroleum is undeniable. Moreover, the quantity of oil transported at sea in the Mediterranean Region in expected to increase in the next years by 30% with more oil coming from East through Croatia and Turkey. The volume of maritime traffic is expected to further increase with the implementation in 2010 of the EU policy in matter of transport and its "motorways of the sea". In addition, the current trend towards carriers that transport more soluble refined products that are more toxic for biological diversity could in the future constitute an even greater danger. The cost of combating these potential risks is high, but preserving the surrounding shores is vital for the economy of the region and its environmental integrity.

The Strategy should distinguish between:

- the issue of urban transport where priority must be given to the renovation and extension of public networks, together with promotion of new means of transport and new technologies
- desirable objectives in relation to the development of safe maritime transport and measures for the prevention of accidents, monitoring and reducing voluntary waste, equipping ports with reception facilities in accordance with MARPOL 73/78 the new Prevention and Emergency Protocol and the Catania Declaration. Relevant Regional Strategy is under preparation;
- the transport of goods over medium and long distances and the interurban transport of passengers, as well as the renovation of railway lines which should be fully exploited;
- the coastal navigation, including connections to Islands and the transmediterranean circulation; .

Sustainable management of marine and coastal zones

Around the Mediterranean, the population is increasingly occupying the coastal zone, exacerbating the "littoralzation" phenomena. Given that only 40% of the total length of the Mediterranean coasts can be deemed "useful" for human activities and settlements, littoralization phenomena have been consistently intensifying in terms of demographic and socio-economic processes.

Most Mediterranean societies have not developed, in recent times, principles and rules for land use. Given specific Mediterranean context where semi-desert or rocky mountains, few fertile agricultural land, sea and wide deserts coexist in various complex forms, land use rules are a must to avoid degradation of the physical and cultural heritage of this fragile and beautiful eco-region.

Desertification, soil degradations in rural areas, concentration of populations on the seacoasts, mass tourism are the predominant features of the Mediterranean landscape. These trends are known to be unsustainable and efforts will have to be especially devoted to induce Mediterranean in becoming more respectful and rule abiding in the use of their urban or rural lands.

The Strategy will be based on the PAP/RAC White Paper on the management of coastal zones, the recommendations adopted by the MCSD and the experience from the Coastal Area Management Projects/ CAMPs. It will be intended to:

- o implement effectively the SAP and SAP BIO in accordance with the relevant provisions of the LBS and SPA and Biodiversity Protocols;
- o develop practical implementation projects (new GEF-FFEM project);
- o mobilize the EC-MEDA/SMAP to combat land-based pollution;
- develop a regional legal framework for the management of coastal areas and set out objectives and means of action for the effective protection of coastal areas and natural landscapes in the context of land-use planning.

Sustainable agriculture and rural development

Agriculture represents a significant portion of both employment and national income in many Mediterranean countries. It also represents the largest consumer of both water and arable land. However, the bad management of Mediterranean agriculture and rural areas has a severe impact. The desertification that affects 80 per cent of dry and arid areas is causing an inestimable loss of biodiversity, the progressive silting of reservoirs and reductions in agricultural production. The principal cause in developing countries is the overexploitation of resources (forests and firewood, pastureland, agricultural land and water) by the large rural populations, which are poverty-stricken and over-dependent on agriculture. Neighbouring countries also face the risk of forest fires, which are occurring with greater frequency in developed countries as a result of the reduction

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of agricultural activity and the management deficit. Sparsely populated and not industrialized, the Karst areas of the East Mediterranean developing countries are still practically virgin and should remain so, thanks to the promotion of new economic activities, mainly in the agricultural field.

The marginalization of hinterlands and internal disparities have grown with the polarization of agricultural development around irrigated crops and on the rare coastal and fluvial plains, to the benefit of a minority of farmers. This polarization has also contributed to an accentuation of the pressure on water resources and of pollution by fertilizers and pesticides. As demonstrated by the work of the MCSD and FEMISE, the liberalization of trade could augment the rural exodus and certain types of social and environmental deterioration.

An evolution of policy towards more integrated, diversified and participative forms of rural development, within a comprehensive regional agricultural policy, with a special focus to the coastal regions would therefore appear to be essential to ensure the sustainable management of vital resources (land, biodiversity, water), limit risk factors (fires, floods, pollution), offer a way out of rural poverty (which limits the development of internal markets and is a source of social instability) and reduce the rural exodus (which is having a detrimental impact on urban areas, the coast and emigration). What is also at stake is the creation in the long term of added value through development, which integrates environmental concerns and promotes the strong points of the Mediterranean (synergy between agriculture, tourism, industry and services, and the development of local products and organic agriculture).

Through support for the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and the work of the FAO, Silva Mediterranean, CIHEAM, MAP and Euro-Mediterranean Conferences, the Strategy could establish as objectives a reorientation of public policies and the implementation of integrated development programmes (such as regional natural parks, biosphere reserves and other pilot actions). At the regional level, it would call for the strengthening of development assistance policies, the greater integration of environmental and social factors in Euro-Mediterranean agricultural negotiations and the more robust implementation of international Conventions on biodiversity and desertification

<u>Sustainable Management of Urban Development</u>

In the past, the major urban centres proliferated around primal coastal settlements and ports; their development was typified by special concentration. In recent decades, with the advent of rising incomes the modernization of transportation (mainly road infrastructure) and tourism, there is evidence of an increasing sprawling urbanisation attitude being superimposed upon the coastline, which further attracts population and economic activities.

Coastal urbanization is thus representing the bulk of population growth and of economic activity in the Mediterranean region but this has significant environmental consequences such as: spatial polarization, rising demand for key resources and conflicts of use, physical degradation of resources, pollution threats to the sea and pollution risks to urban areas, increasing number of vehicles, dense transport systems and air pollution.

Taking as a basis the relevant MCSD recommendations, the Strategy will set out objectives in the following areas, among others:

- urban planning policy, including reducing urban sprawl, promoting urban regeneration and preventing natural risks;
- o protection and promotion of peri-urban agriculture;
- promotion of sustainable urban transport and development of new working means and technologies;
- control and management of domestic waste;
- o modernization, through in particular cleaner technologies, of industrial plants situated in urban areas and which are harmful to the health and quality of life.

Part V. Institutional and financial means needed to face the challenges

The strategy for sustainable development in the Mediterranean should identify the adequate means to tackle successfully the main challenges that have been described, and also to cope satisfactorily with the stakes of the priority fields of actions.

In this respect, existing financial and institutional means should be enlarged, increased and used more efficiently, while new means or tools of action should be created and deployed, locally, nationally and regionally.

Capacity building and awareness for Sustainable Development

As a priority, more human and financial resources should be used to increase sustainable development awareness among the various concerned actors and stakeholders. This implies that efforts should be dedicated to promoting values and principles of sustainable development at various institutional levels.

Governance principles will not be diffused and implemented unless global awareness of the sustainable development challenges increase in Mediterranean societies.

To this effect, more attention, financial and human resources should be devoted to this task by all concerned actors such as: educational institutions and teachers and professors unions or associations, local bodies, state enterprises, regulatory authorities, tax authorities, Ministries of Public Works and other concerned Ministries, and recipients of foreign aid (private and public) as well as, NGOs, media (newspaper, TV, Radio), Business Associations (Chambers of Commerce, Bankers Associations, Chambers of Industry) and Professional Associations.

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The dialogue capacity of some of these entities will have to be reinforced by more institutional spending and adequate recruitment of human resources in specific fields where more detailed and transparent information is needed, such as: data collection, economic, social and environmental analysis, as well as, networking with existing SD centers inside and outside the region and the creation of new networks at the local, national and regional levels to spread best practices.

Moreover, a sustainable strategy would require strengthening of capacities at national and local levels. In this context the following should be given due consideration in the elaboration and implementation of the Strategy:

- establishment of governmental, regional and local structures capable of developing and implementing sustainable development strategies;
- strengthening of Ministries of Environment and their implementation services (environmental inspectorates, processing of permits, application of environmental legislation, management of protected areas, etc.);
- Increasing awareness and knowledge on environment and development issues, and strengthening capacities and decision-making tools for promoting sustainable development, in particular in other ministries such as economy, finance and most important sectors in addition, each technical ministry concerned by SD should develop its own unit for the "environment" and/or sustainable development.
- strengthening of public information and participation mechanisms;
- objectives to be set in relation to access to environmental justice;
- objective to be determined in relation to research and development, as well as education for sustainable development, including technological aspects;
- development of environmental statistical services and observatories particularly through the development of the MEDSTAT Project.

<u>Institutionalizing sustainable development agreements between the various actors and stakeholders and mobilization of Regional Partners</u>

The outcome of an efficient institutional dialogue between actors and stakeholders of sustainable development should be the establishment of written arrangements between the concerned parties to the effect of changing patterns of economic and social behavior so as to concretize common objectives.

Such arrangements should take place at the local and national level between concerned partners, some of which were mentioned in section III of this report. At the local level, municipal bodies and other concerned decentralized geographical entities should initiate a dialogue between the actors and stakeholders to tackle local challenges and determine objectives to be reached in a certain time span by common and shared efforts of all parties. Objectives will be related to tackling unemployment, reducing poverty, protecting the environment and the natural and historical patrimony resources of the local entity (a town, a village, a region, a rural area).

The same process should be conducted at the national level taking into consideration the outcome of the dialogue conducted at the regional level. At the Mediterranean level,

there is already a diversified base for dialogue and action constituted by the Barcelona Convention and the Barcelona Process. What is needed urgently is to use more efficiently existing financial and human resources and look for improved mechanisms so that the various agreements signed by the Mediterranean countries or the various networking arrangements existing between cities, universities, NGOs, the business sector and other associations or entities could be activated more dynamically through accrued human and financial resources.

The Strategy should mobilize active regional and sub-regional sustainable development partners in the Mediterranean, giving due consideration to common but differentiated management and responsibility:

- The Euro-Mediterranean Ministers of the Environment have already recognized the value and importance of the MSSD, in the preparation of which the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership will be closely associated. The Euro-Mediterranean Partnership, under the Gothenburg Declaration and the Declaration of Euro-Mediterranean Ministers of Environment (Athens, 2002), should communicate the measures adopted to integrate sustainability issues in the Euro-Mediterranean Free-Trade Area project, beginning with the association agreements currently being revised or negotiated. All the aspects of the Partnership would be reviewed in this spirit, and particularly, energy, transport, tourism and financing. The EIB (Mediterranean Facility) would also be invited to be associated with this approach;
- The World Bank particularly active in the field of water and waste management, and METAP, UNDP, FAO and other United Nations agencies will also be invited to present their objectives in the Mediterranean region in accordance with the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;
- Intergovernmental initiatives or programmes active at the subregional level (the League of Arab States, Arab Maghreb Union, the Adriatic-Ionian Initiative) will also be invited to indicate their objectives;
- The Strategy will also invite actors representing decentralized structures, such as the Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions of Europe and MedCities to be associated with these objectives;
- The Strategy will also invite the main NGO networks and other major groups;
- Last but not least, networks of enterprises and chambers of commerce and industry will be invited in view of their essential role in the promotion of sustainable development;
- The Strategy, its preparation and implementation, will make appropriate use of existing institutional and technical facilities, such as the MCSD that could bridge between partners for the identification, preparation and implementation of sustainable development projects, in the framework of the MSSD

Mobilization of financial means

Financial means for sustainable development in addition to funds usually mobilized for specific projects, will have to be increased substantially if the challenges identified are to be met and the objectives set in the priority areas for action are to be achieved.

The Strategy should set forth clear and realistic objectives, particularly in the following fields:

- the increase in the proportion of GDP devoted to sustainable development issues (public health, education, research, environment, public transport); the consensus reached at the Monterrey Summit on "Finance for Development", as well as the traditional goal reaffirmed several times to have the rich countries devote 0.7% of their GDP should be emphasized and adequately monitored at the level of the Mediterranean region.
- development of ecological tax measures based among others on the use of natural resources and tourism;
- development of financial mechanisms for the development of water and waste management infrastructure, with particular emphasis on waste water treatment;
- mobilization of multilateral and bilateral assistance;
- development of other innovative financial mechanism for the implementation of sustainable development policies, such as debt-nature swapping, Mediterranean bonds, etc.

To that end, adequate financial means could be mobilized by different tools and at different level;

Adapting Development Assistance to the needs of sustainable development

Many efforts have been done by donor's countries to take into consideration environmental constraints while financing infrastructure projects. But there should be more efforts to enlarge the scope to other key elements of the overall strategy for SD. To this effect, new focuses could be put in place.

1. Decentralized Assistance

Together with the internal progress of decentralization in assisted countries, donor's countries should try to manage their assistance through decentralized channels. This means that part of assistance budgets could be transferred to local bodies in the donor's countries, leaving to these bodies the task of identifying assistance projects in partnership with local bodies in the countries assisted.

2. Assistance to capacity building for actors and stakeholders of sustainable development

Complementing what have been already suggested for debt swaps; donors should also devote resources to help actors and stakeholders of SD to build their capacity for analysis and dialogue. Actors and stakeholders have already been identified. The success of building and implementing a strategy in the Mediterranean region will largely depend on the capacity of the main actors to change patterns of development under the pressure of stakeholders and within institutional dialogues between themselves, the State and the local bodies.

3. More focused assistance in the priority areas as defined above

The priority areas for sustainable development defined in this framework can be a guide for ODA. Old forms of assistance, as balance of payment or budget support or large project financing not relevant to sustainable development should be avoided, so that available ODA resources could be entirely devoted to priority areas.

Conclusion: how to implement the Framework Orientations

Many efforts and initiatives have been undertaken in view to secure peace, security and economic development in the Mediterranean region. The present Orientation Framework with the Vision document has attempted to synthesize the various aspects of the many problems that still affect the Mediterranean. Based on sustainable development and Governance principles, it has also presented orientations for the types of actions needed to address the challenges confronting the region. Priority areas in need of renewed financial and technical efforts have also been defined. A set of suggestions have been made also on how to make better use of Mediterranean human and financial resources and to raise additional resources to be focused on identifying sustainable development new patterns for achieving better quality of life for all and implementing relevant actions.

There is no doubt that the time is now ripe to put in place processes of SD at local, national and regional levels based on the orientations presented here. Monitoring mechanisms and performance indicators should now be elaborated by the MCSD and presented to Mediterranean countries, the EU and other bilateral, regional and multilateral donor's institutions, local bodies and other actors and stakeholders of SD in the region. Responsibility and capacity for following up this monitoring and evaluation system should be given due consideration.

The framework should now be developed at the regional, national and local levels and up-dated on a continuous basis to take into account new changes and challenges that are to be confronted by the region. Sustainable Development is a continuous process and, thus, needs to be implemented without rigidity, but rather with flexibility and through institutional means that will need continuous adaptation to changing circumstances and be guided by improved governance and dialogue between all parties to the process.

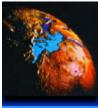


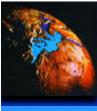


Le Rapport Environnement et Développement en Méditerranée

éléments de synthèse

Sophia Antipolis, Juin 2004



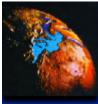






Le Rapport **Environnement et Développement**

- Demandé par les pays riverains et la CE,
- Publication fin 2004
- Mandat: rapport régional, rétrospective et prospective, indicateurs, montrant «l'unité, la diversité des situations, les efforts en cours pour le développement durable, les bonnes pratiques et difficultés...»
- Revisite du Plan Bleu de 1985/1989, alerte sur le futur, analyse de progrès en cours et possibles
- Messages des scénarios de 1985/1989 : pas de durabilité sans politiques nationales; environnement et développement; coopération Sud/Sud et Nord/Sud

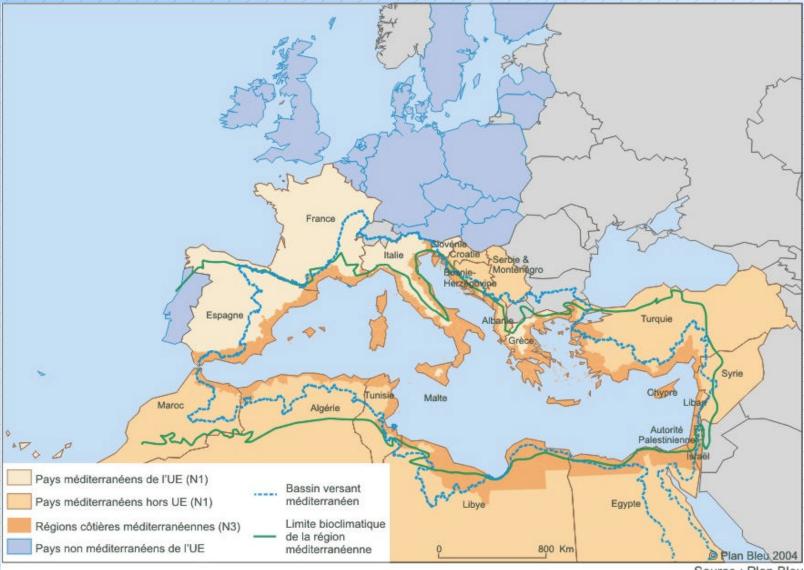








Un cadre méditerranéen à plusieurs dimensions







Cadre Logique du Rapport

Partie 1 Dynamiques et spécificités méditerranéennes

Scénario tendanciel de base à 2025

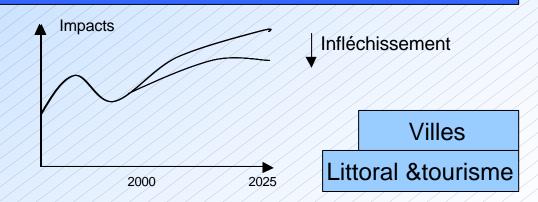
Partie 2 Problématiques de développement durable

Eau

Énergie

Transport

Espace rural



Partie 3 Invitation à l'action





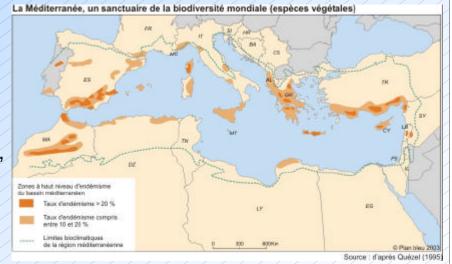


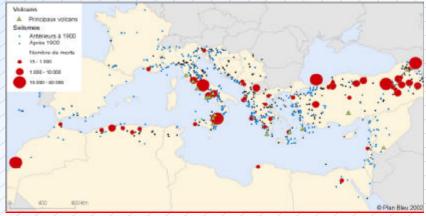
1/ Spécificités méditerranéennes

- .7% population mondiale, 13% PIB, 3% ressources en eau et 5% production de gaz, déficit commercial agricole structurel, 30% trafic maritime hydrocarbures, 30% flux tourisme international,
- .Stress hydrique, aridité Sud
- .Montagne, îles, espace fragmenté, transformé,
- .Risques naturels
- Diversité et qualité patrimoniale : biodiversité, savoir-faire, paysages, patrimoine culturel, cultures, littoral (46000 km)
- Mer et échanges: carrefour entre trois continents, lien UE/Méditerranée majeur et croissant (migrations, tourisme, commerce, argent.). Un 'espace mouvement'

 Petites entreprises, fortes solidarités (familles et groupes)





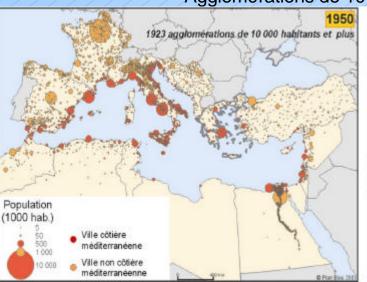


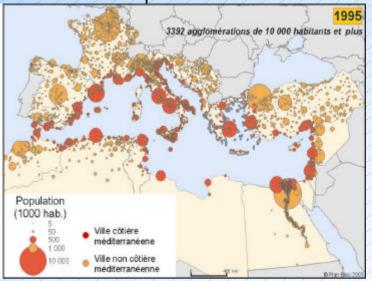




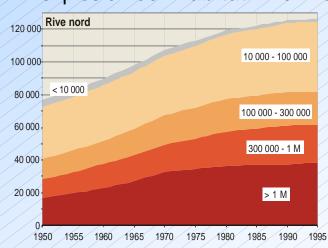
2/ Confirmation tendances lourdes : Croissance démographique et urbanisation

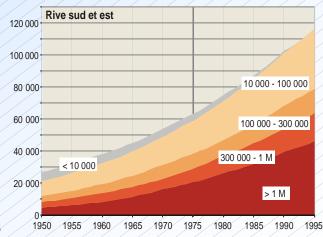
Agglomérations de 10 000 habitants et plus

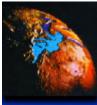




Croissance des très grandes villes des PSEM, explosion de l'habitat informel (30 à 70% de la population)







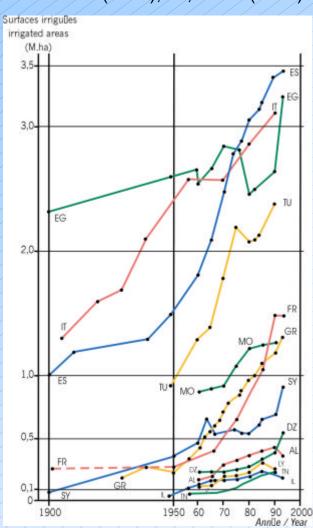




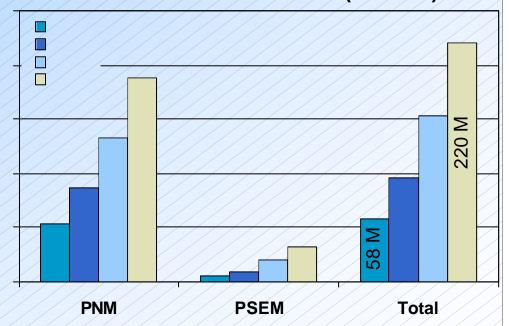
Agriculture irriguée et tourisme

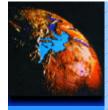
Surfaces Irriguées :

11M ha (1960); 20,5 M ha(2000)



Touristes internationaux (millions)





Littoralisation





- Marginalisation des arrièrepays
- Recul des relations traditionnelles littoralmontagne (transhumance ...)
- Cumul des pressions sur le littoral et les plaines: tourisme, agriculture intensive, industrie, urbanisation, infrastructures
- Circulation littorale intense

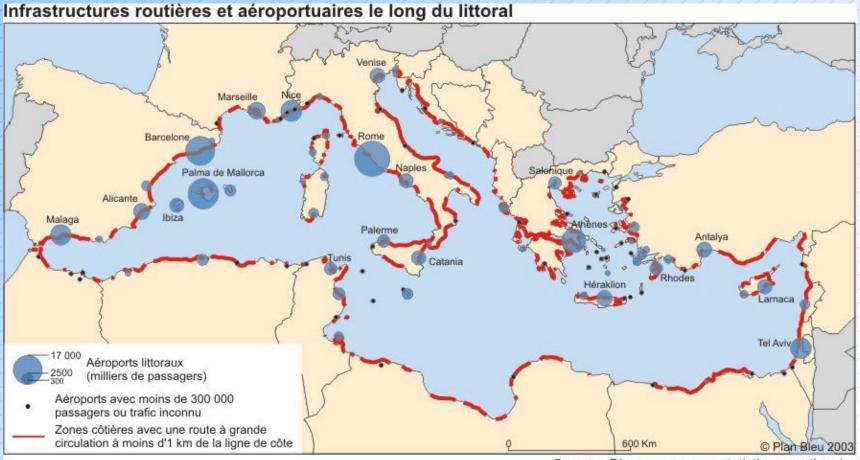


Infrastructures littorales: routes et aéroports





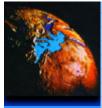
plan bleu



Source: Diverses sources statistiques nationales

Ex de l'aéroport de Palma:

7 millions de voyageurs en 1980, 11 millions en 1990, 19 millions en 2000





3/ Confirmation du scénario tendanciel « non durable » malgré les évolutions + de politiques (partenariat N/S, environnement, économie de marché)

 Fracture économique Nord/Sud persistante

> (NB des pays du « Sud » au Nord: Albanie, du « Nord » au Sud: Israël

Croissance du PIB par tête



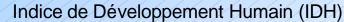
PIB ppa par cap.	1985	2000
Moyen. UE-Med	10 595\$	20 955\$
Moyenne UE-Med	100	100
Chypre	74/	√ 99
 Israël 	93/	96
 Slovénie 	73/	83
Malte	51	82
Croatie	37	39
 Turquie 	31	//33/
 Tunisie 	29	30
 Algérie 	38	25
Liban	12	2 1/21/
Albanie	14/	//17/
Syrie	177/	17/
 Egypte 	19/	17/
Maroc	20	//17/

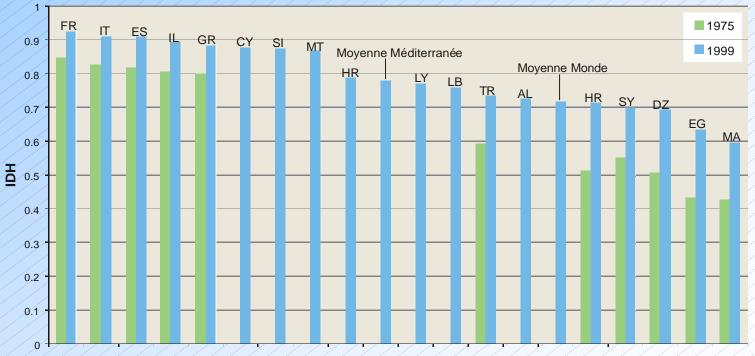




...progrès sociaux insuffisants: chômage, pauvreté

 Progrès sociaux au Sud et à l'Est: mortalité infantile (divisée par 2 en 20 ans), espérance de vie (passée de 50 à 70 ans), éducation primaire,...





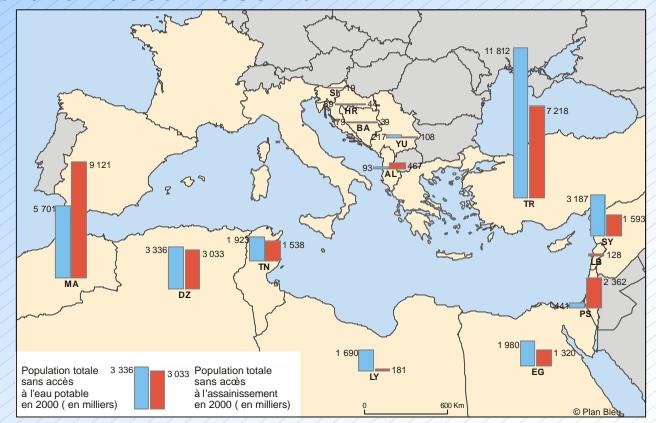
- Ampleur exceptionnelle du chômage (jeunes, longue durée). PSEM: de 20 à 30 %; Croatie et Albanie:16%, UE Med: plus de 10%
- Pauvreté absolue PSEM: moins de 3% <1\$ /j, mais entre 7 et 18 % <2\$/jour (52% Egypte). Forte pauvreté rurale
- Pauvreté absolue UE Med : plus de 10% (<14,4\$/j)

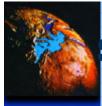






- Taux de scolarisation secondaire inférieur à la moyenne mondiale (64%) et asiatique (67%): Albanie (37%), Maroc (39%), Syrie (42%), Turquie (58%)
- Analphabétisme des plus de 15 ans PSEM: 30% (Asie 15%)
- Près de 30 millions de méditerranéens sans accès à l'eau et à l'assainissement

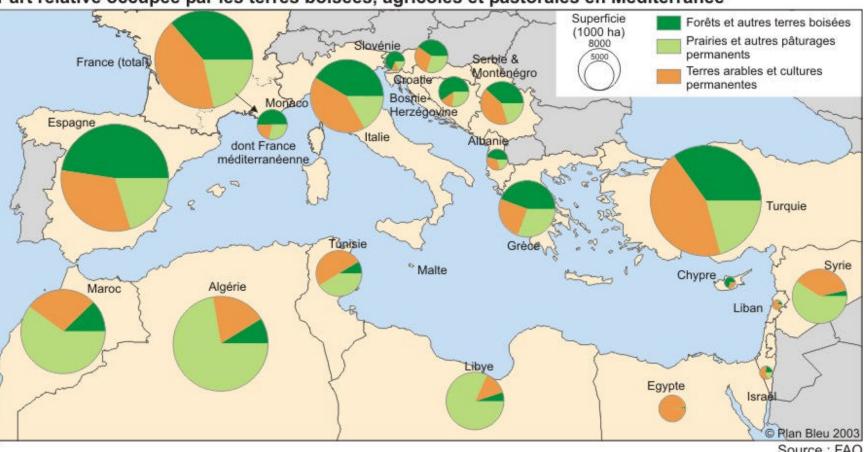




Surexploitation de l'espace rural au Sud, déprise au Nord

Part relative occupée par les terres boisées, agricoles et pastorales en Méditerranée





Source: FAO

Taux de boisement : 42% au Nord (en croissance) 5% au Sud et à l'Est (clairsemés, dégradés)



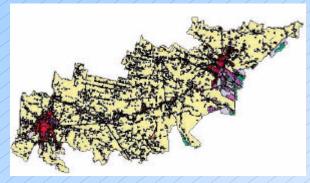


Étalement urbain

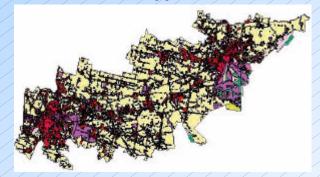
Facilité par l'explosion des transports motorisés et la dispersion des activités

Padoue et (Venise) Mestre

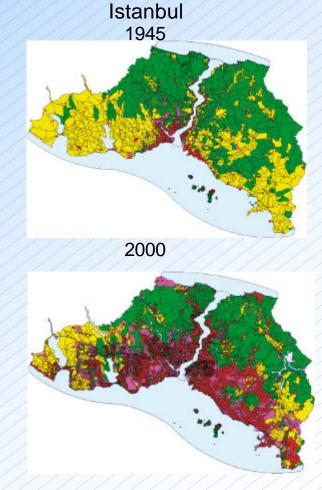
1955



1997



Pertes de terres agricoles



- 116 km² de terres agricoles perdues dans le corridor Padoue/Venise-Mestre (276 ha/an)
- Istanbul: 561 km² (1021 ha/an)

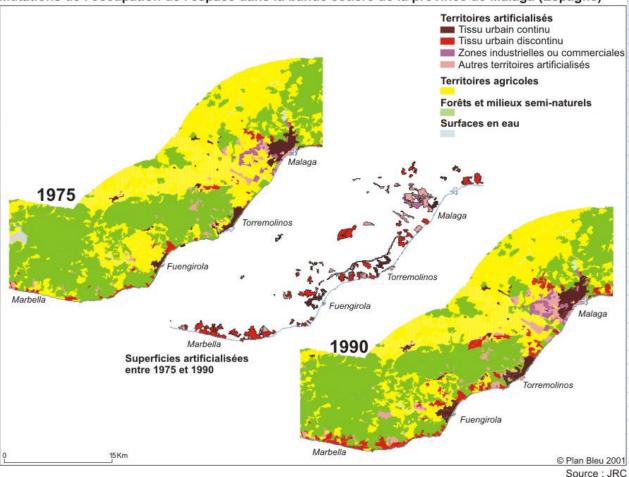




Artificialisation des côtes

•exemple de Malaga- Marbella: 1975-1990)

Mutations de l'occupation de l'espace dans la bande côtière de la province de Malaga (Espagne)



≈ 40% de côtes méditerranéennes construites en 2000: vers un bétonnage général des côtes méditerranéennes?





...le coût croissant de la non durabilité

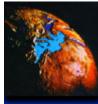
• Dégradation environnementale au Sud et à l'Est (eau, air, sols-forêts-biodiversité,littoral): 3% PIB Tunisie, 5% Égypte, 7% Algérie. désertification: 80% des zones arides et sèches (érosion, salinisation:1,5 M ha en Turquie), 3 milliards € production agricole perdue, comblement des barrages (0,5% à 1%)

Coûts considérables aussi au Nord:

- congestion automobile: 14 milliards \$ en France (contre 1,6 en Turquie et 0,4 en Egypte) Total Méditerranée: 41 milliards \$, en forte croissance (+16%/an)
- dépenses des ménages pour les transports
- lutte contre les feux de forêts (plus de 1 milliard euros/an)
- perte d'emplois dans la pêche (Italie)

Dégradations et coûts croissants sur les deux rives :

- Santé/pollution
- Catastrophes naturelles: Izmit (1999), Alger-Boumerdès (2003), Al Hoceima (2004), inondations du Gard,...
- Terres agricoles de haute qualité (perte par urbanisation et infrastructures):
 Liban: 15% des terres irriguées en 20 ans, Turquie: 150.000 ha en 20ans,
 France: 200.000 ha en 12 ans, Égypte: 12.500 ha/an,
- Monoactivité touristique (impacts socio-culturels, perte de résilience,..)
- Biodiversité, paysages méditerranéens



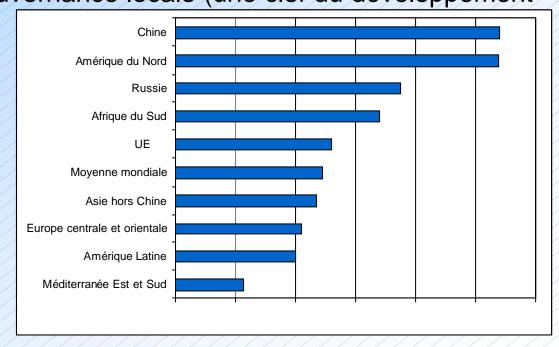


4/ Insuffisance de gouvernance pour le développement durable

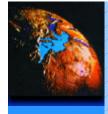
Conflictivité, déficit de coopération Sud/Sud
Fragilité macro-économique PSEM, déficit entrepreneurial,
manque d'innovation. Poids dette et dépenses militaires. Peu de
dépenses recherche-développement. Acteurs locaux et
professionnels peu mobilisés et responsabilisés pour le
développement durable. Économie rentière et peu innovante.
Faiblesse de la gouvernance locale (une clef du développement

Intégré)

Dépenses des échelons locaux en pourcentage des dépenses totales de l'Etat, 1997-2000



 Partenariat euro-méditerranéen sous dimensionné (moyens, engagements). Peu d'intégration du développement durable.

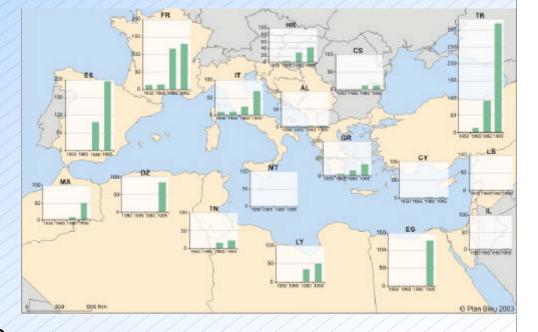




gouvernance: difficulté à intégrer environnement et développement

- Politiques d'environnement curatives, sectorielles, descendantes.
 Des progrès dans les pays UE (directives, traitement des déchets, assainissement,..) mais à coût élevé et qui ne réduisent pas les pressions en amont. Difficulté d'application des lois.
 Zones protégées côtières (milliers d'hectares)
- Progrès insuffisants sur la mer et le littoral: Conventions, baisse des rejets opérationnels d'hydrocarbures, 50% des rejets telluriques non traités. Difficultés de financement.

Espaces protégés faibles
Pas de protocole littoral.
Seulement 5 lois cadre et 2
agences littorales



agences littorales
 Politiques de lutte contre la désertification (conservation des eaux, sols et forêts) pas assez intégrées aux politiques de développement rural





gouvernance (suite)

- Faible intégration de l'environnement et du développement durable par les politiques et secteurs économiques (progrès dans l'industrie). Polarisation territoriale des investissements (tourisme, transports, irrigation,..). Prédominance de l'approche par l'offre. 20% de ressources en eau et énergie perdues par mauvaise gestion.
- Outil fiscal et subventions peu utilisés pour le développement durable. Principe utilisateur/payeur peu mis en œuvre (tourisme, transports). Ressources rares non payées à leur coût (eau, littoral,..). Externalités positives de l'agriculture et de la forêt peu rémunérées.
- Planification urbaine, aménagement du territoire



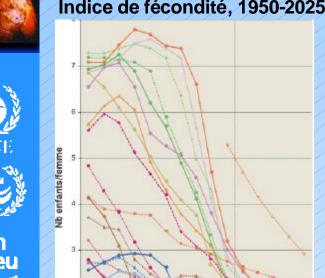


5/ Alerte sur les évolutions à 2025 (scénario de base)

Hypothèses du scénario de base:

- Climat (réchauffement confirmé, modéré à 2025)
- Démographie (transition accélérée)
- Mondialisation, libre échange (progressivité sur l'agriculture), régionalisation/coopération différenciée (intégration rive Nord, déficit de coopération N/S S/S)
- Gouvernance pour l'environnement et le développement insuffisante, approche réactive et corrective plutôt que d'anticipation et de mobilisation/responsabilisation
- Croissance économique insuffisante

Indice de fécondité, 1950-2025



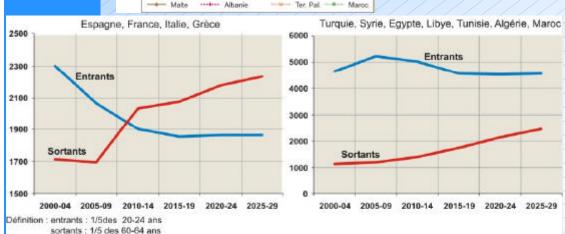
1950-54 1950-64 1970-74 1980-84

Forte convergence des taux de fécondité : Rapprochement de modèle sociétal, Moindres pressions sur les ressources, Opportunités pour le développement des PSEM

Vieillissement accéléré au Nord

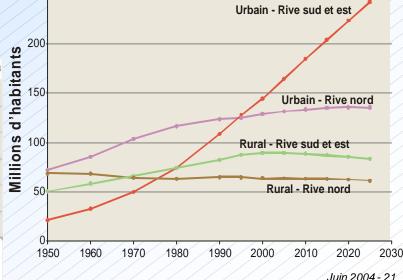
Perspectives démographiques et défis à 2025

- 34 millions d'emplois à créer en 20 ans au Sud et à l'Est (pour maintenir les taux d'emplois actuels)
- Forte croissance urbaine + 104 millions en 25 ans



- Israèl

2000-04 2010-14 2020-24

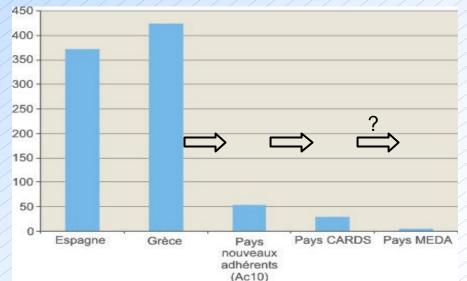




2025: un modèle d'intégration régionale au Nord sans équivalent au Sud et à l'Est ?



- Rive Nord: intégration UE (Balkans, Turquie): libertés de circulation, acquis communautaires, directives environnementales, fonds agricoles et structurels (infrastructures environnementales, régions pauvres,...). Stratégie imparfaite mais réelle de cohésion/durabilité.
- Rive Sud et Est: Vers quel niveau intégration, accompagnement et engagement? Le nouveau cadre de la politique de voisinage. Extension à terme du modèle UE aux PSEM? Avec ou sans prise en compte des spécificités? Rapprochement à géométrie variable



Montants nets des principaux transferts financiers de la CE en 2002 (€ par hab.)

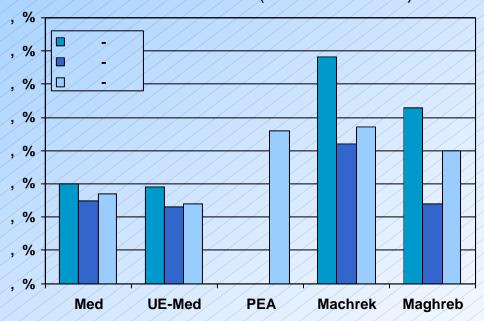


2025: maintien de la fracture économique N/S?



PSEM, le défi du libre échange: rigidités (rapport PNUD), fragilités structurelles, emplois industriels menacés par la concurrence mondiale (Asie), grande fragilité rurale.

Hypothèse de croissance économique moyenne 2000-2025 (scénario de base)



Hypothèse de croissance:

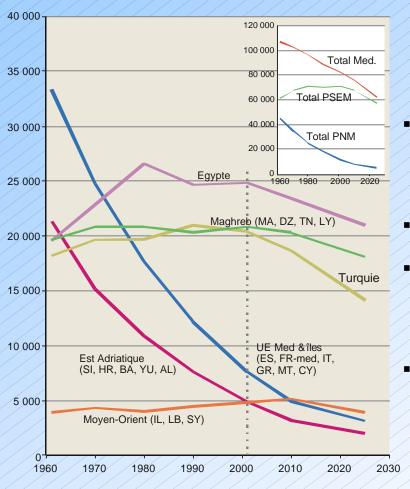
- •Med:+2,5%
- Rattrapage PEA
- Maintien écarts
 UE/PSEM (un
 rattrapage supposerait +
 6 à +7%)
- Vers une forte baisse du poids Europe+Med dans le monde?



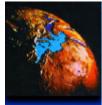


2025: dualités agricoles, fragilités rurales

Populations agricoles (en milliers)



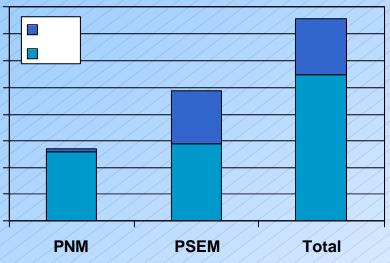
- Asymétrie et disparités agricoles N/S et dans les PSEM (agriculture moderne/ de subsistance, fruits et légumes/céréales-élevage, irrigué/pluvial)
- Taux d'actifs agricoles : Turquie: 46%,
 Maroc: 36%, Égypte 33%, France:
 3%, Italie: 5%
- Écarts de productivité considérables
- Poursuite de l'effondrement des populations agricoles au Nord, début de baisse au Sud et à l'Est
- Grande fragilité rurale PSEM: risques de paupérisation, déstructuration sociétale avec libre échange si absence de régulation et politiques, peu d'opportunités à l'export (agroalimentaire), croissance agricole + 50% (marchés intérieurs)



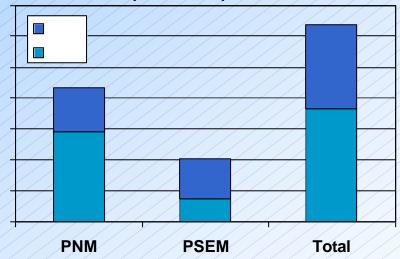


2025: croissance des pressions

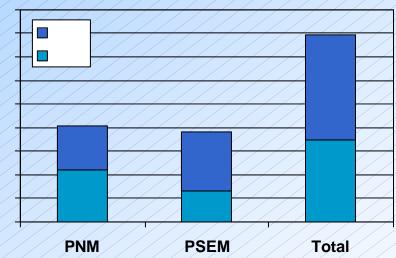
Urbains: + 104 millions



Touristes (Int + Nat): + 273 millions



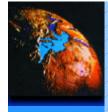
Déchets urbains: + 221 millions t



Transports:

- •Motorisation de masse PSEM 2015?
- Trafic voyageurs +100%
- Trafic fret (route +rail+air) +150%
- Trafic maritime +270%
- Trafic aérien +90%

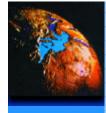
PSEM: production acier + 138% (+29 Mt), Production de ciment +150%





...pressions littorales

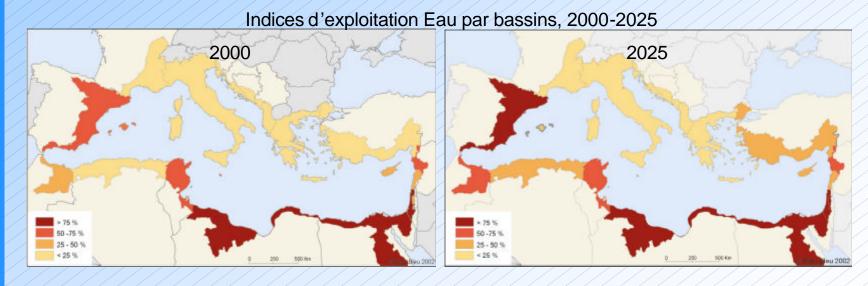
- Régions côtières: + 137 M touristes internationaux et nationaux (soit un total de 312 M), polarisation des transports.
- Densité linéique/ km de côte:
 2300 (habitants + touristes) en 2000, 3330 en 2025
- Littoral: + 20 millions urbains, + 226 équipements énergétiques (dont 160 centrales) + 175 usines de dessalement (à 6000m3/j) + Plusieurs dizaines ou centaines de ports de plaisance en plus des 750 existants (46 planifiés et TR et GR)+ pollutions,...
- + 5000 km de côtes construites en 25 ans et 50% de côtes artificialisées en 2025?
- Crédibilité d'un tel scénario (encombrement, acceptation sociale,..)?





... ressources en eau, sols et végétation

- Terres irriguées: + 6 millions ha
- Demande en eau: + 20% (PSEM)
- 63 millions de méditerranéens avec moins de 500 m3 eau/an
- Tensions accrues sur les ressources en eau



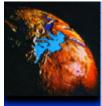
 Pressions sur les sols et la végétation: 1,7 M ha perdus par urbanisation, désertification, perte de biodiversité



2025: croissance des coûts et des risques



- Disparités (internes et régionales) et instabilités
- Risques de pollutions maritimes
- Catastrophes naturelles (incendies, inondations, séismes,..)
- Perte de résilience (écosystèmes, économies,..)
- Coût croissant de la non durabilité

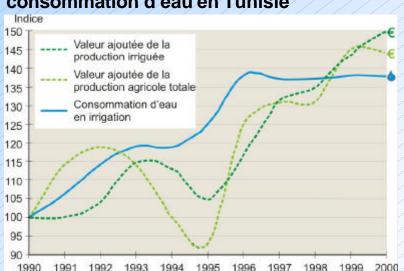




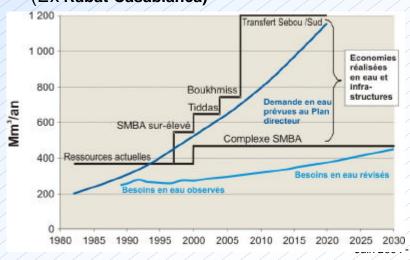
6/ Des exemples de bonne pratique, un scénario alternatif gagnant/gagnant possible

- Développement maîtrisé/valorisation des atouts : valorisation des produits (produits typiques d'appellation), des territoires: rural (ex Toscane), îles (ex Minorque), villes (régénérations urbaines: Tunis, Naples).
- Découplages économie/environnement: énergie, agriculture biologique, industrie propre, véhicules propres, économie rurale/pauvreté/désertification (Maghreb), eau:

Découplage production agricole irriguée/ consommation d'eau en Tunisie



Économies d'eau et d'infrastructures (Ex Rabat-Casablanca)







Découplage/valorisation: le scénario alternatif

Énergie 2025:

URE (économies 20-25%), ENR: 11% au lieu de 2%.

Gains: - 208 millions de Tep,18 milliards \$/an économisés (soit 18 fois APD du secteur), - 25% d'émissions de CO2 (858 millions de tonnes)

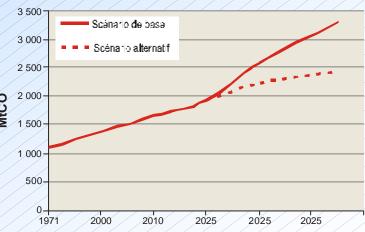
Transports 2025:

Trafics voyageurs - 8%, fret -11%. Rail: 3500 (contre 5%). Renforcement de la prévention des pollutions maritimes.

Gains: Moins de bruit (9 millions hab), de pollution (180000 tonnes Nox,...), de coûts 1500 de congestion (41 milliards \$), de rejets polluants en mer (2,6 millions de tonnes)

Demande d'énergie 1365 Mtep Hydro Pétrole 1158 Mtep Charbon + 103 - 10 900 821 Mtep - 62 500 - 4E4 300 100 Sc. Base 2000

Émission CO2 scénario de base : + 1398 millions de tonnes



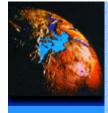
- Déchets: Réduction à la source et recyclage. Gains : 6 millions de tonnes par an à traiter, 3,8 milliards \$/an économisés en 2025.
- •Eau: 54 km3 économisés, soit 10milliards €/an (30 fois l'APD), près de 100 barrages évités. Priorité: agriculture





Découplage/valorisation/cohésion : territoires méditerranéens (villes, littoral, espace rural)

- Dynamiques territoriales par et avec les acteurs:
 - Gestion participative des ressources naturelles: sortie pauvreté/désertification, forêts, biodiversité, réduction des risques
 - Valorisation patrimoniale: produits, patrimoine culturel, territoires, diversification économique, synergies tourisme/agriculture/industrie (« toscanisation »). Requalification urbaine, anticipation urbanisation, gestion intégrée du littoral, développement rural,...
- Développement régional/aménagement du territoire pour le développement durable.
 - Report du littoral vers les arrière-pays de 1/3 des flux touristiques supplémentaires attendus 2025 dans les régions côtière
 - Soutien espaces ruraux, petites et moyennes villes
 - Planification croisée urbanisation/transports, soutien aux transports collectifs (avant motorisation de masse), maintien agriculture et espaces ruraux, prise en compte des risques (inondations, feux,..)
 - Protection du littoral. 4000 km de côtes en protection/gestion durable en plus d'ici 2025?
- Gains considérables possibles (développement et environnement).
- NB: le littoral 1er bénéficiaire du « découplage » (80 centrales évitées, apports en eau, pressions touristiques, transports..)





7/ Conclusion: quelles conditions pour un scénario alternatif?

Prise de conscience :

- urgence à changer de scénario (coûts et risques)
- ✓ lien environnement/développement
- bénéfices considérables possibles (gagnant/gagnant)
- nécessité de « sauts » au Sud et à l'Est (éviter mimétisme négatif avec le Nord, accélération du changement)
- ✓ conditions de succès (obstacles à surmonter)

Réformes de fond (cadres porteurs) :

- stratégies et lois de dd (objectifs à moyen/long terme, intégration territoriale et sectorielle, protection biens publics..)
- partenariats avec acteurs locaux et professionnels, décentralisation déconcentration, projets
- outils économiques et rationalisation des dépenses publiques (externalités positives et négatives: tourism pay back, soutiens agricoles, fiscalité locale, infrastructures « vertes »..)
- suivi et évaluation des progrès.





7/ Conclusion: quelles conditions pour un scénario alternatif?

- Coopération Sud/Sud et Nord/Sud, partenariat régional pour le développement durable
 - Rôle de l'UE, renforcement des moyens et des engagements pour le développement durable
 - Approches communes et différenciées, protection et production des biens publics globaux/régionaux, libéralisation agricole intégrant les enjeux méditerranéens
 - Appui au développement, à la mobilisation des acteurs locaux et professionnels pour le développement durable
 - Programmes pan méditerranéens et mécanismes de coopération (environnement, pêche, tourisme, forêts, suivi des progrès,..)
 - ✓ Valoriser et s'enrichir des différences et de la diversité méditerranéenne. Sortir du paradigme d'un « modèle » unique à suivre

Why integrate the SAP into the social and economic processes and practices of sustainable development

- To ensure that the countries' social and economic development programmes will not be adversely impacted by SAP's environmental protection measures; which in turn
- might jeopardize the successful and timely attainment of the SAP's environmental goals and targets

Objectives of the SAP's sustainability assessment

- Assess the strengths and limitations of the SAP as a contributor to sustainable development; and
- Identify any key areas of crucial importance to the success of the SAP, for which further new initiatives may be desirable

Approach to Testing for Sustainable Development

- Using the Brundtland and Rio definitions of sustainable development
- Introduce specific criteria against which the SAP can be tested for:
 - 1. intra-generational equity; and
 - 2. inter-generational equity

Conduct risk Assessment Define critical marine ecosystems factors

Conduct socio-economic
Appraisal and ensure
conservation of total capital

Recommended processes for integrating the SAP into policies and practices of sustainable development in the Mediterranean region

Integrate NAPs into development programmes

Obtain stakeholders' consent; local and transboundary

Findings & Recommendations (1)

 Devise a process to obtain consent and approval of local and transboundary stakeholders for actions taken within the framework of the NAPs concerning adverse effects of hot spots on transboundary marine pollution

Findings & Recommendations (2)

- Conduct a risk assessment of serious or irreversible damage on the critical marine ecosystems factors for the Mediterranean Sea
- Investigate the appropriate conditions when a shift into a differentiated approach may become feasible for all Mediterranean countries

Findings & Recommendations (3)

- Carry out socio-economic appraisals of coastal development programmes with actions targeted by the NAPs to demonstrate that the total capital (man-made and natural) is conserved:
 - to the satisfaction of present generations;
 - for the benefit of future generations

Findings & Recommendations (4)

- Integrate the NAP actions into the countries' social and economic development programmes based on a differentiated time frame that takes into account:
 - risks on marine ecosystems
 - and state of socio-economic development for country in question

Findings & Recommendations (5)

- Update the NAPs actions and their timetables, on a regular basis, with the participation of local and transboundary stakeholders, based on:
 - Most recent results of risk assessment studies
 - Most recent results of the socio-economic appraisal studies





A REGIONAL STRATEGY FOR PREVENTION OF AND RESPONSE TO MARINE POLLUTION FROM SHIPS: A TOOL TO ENSURE SUSTAINABILITY OF MARITIME TRANSPORT IN THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION





9th MCSD, Genoa, 17 – 19 June 2004







CHARACTERISTICS OF THE MARITIME TRANSPORT (positive elements)



Maritime transport can be seen as:

- a sustainable complement to land and air transport;
- the most cost effective means of transportation of passengers and goods;
- the most environmental friendly way of moving goods over long distances;
- the easiest way of moving passengers between the mainland and islands;
- a particularly important contribution to the economic growth of the region.







CHARACTERISTICS OF THE MARITIME TRANSPORT (major related risks)



- marine pollution incidents
- illicit discharges of ship-generated wastes, including oily wastes,

contribute to deterioration of the quality of the sea water,

present a significant threat for the biodiversity, and can adversely affect the region's physical and biological resources.







CHARACTERISTICS OF THE MARITIME TRANSPORT IN THE MEDITERRANEAN



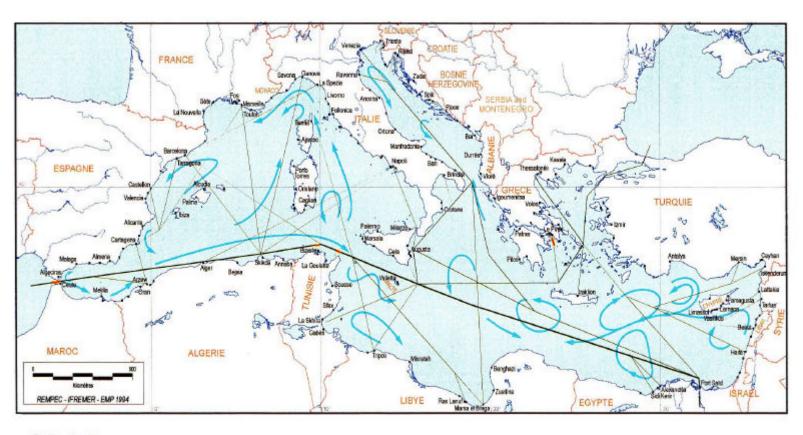
- 30% of the world sea-borne trade volume passes through the Mediterranean
- Presence of significant amount of transiting traffic
- High percentage of oil traffic transported in the Mediterranean (360 M tons)
- High density of ports and harbours
- Several zones which need traffic separation schemes and VTS/VTMIS arrangements
- Mediterranean Sea represents 0,7% of the total area covered by the world's oceans











Routes et ports

Principaux ports pétroliers/gaziers/chimiquiers Routes maritimes principales

Courantologie

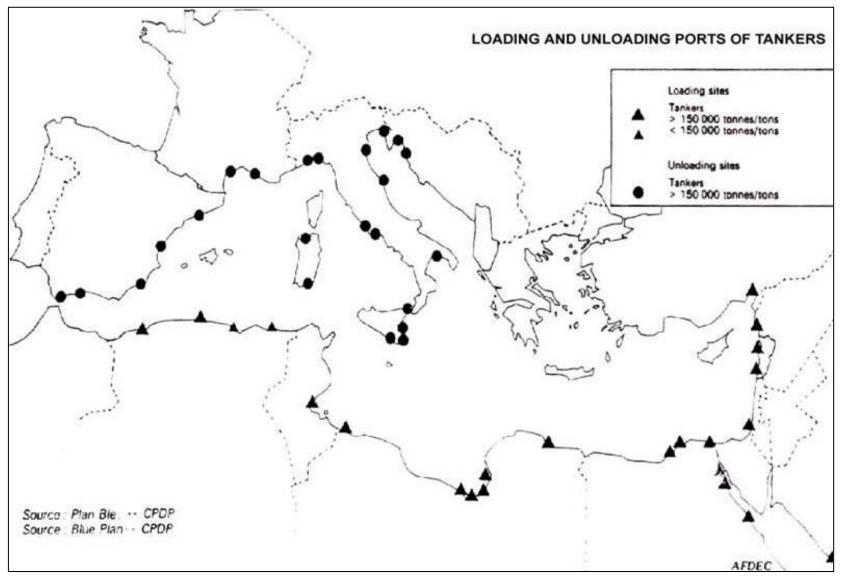
Courants permanents principaux

















NEW DEVELOPMENTS OF MARITIME TRAFFIC IN THE MEDITERRANEAN



- the Euro-Mediterranean Transport Network (motorways of the sea)
- recent trends in oil transport in the region (Omišalj – Croatia and Ceyhan - Turkey)

would significantly increase the maritime traffic in terms of volume of transported goods and number of vessels navigating in areas of region where the traffic is already heavy and therefore poses a high risk for marine environment.

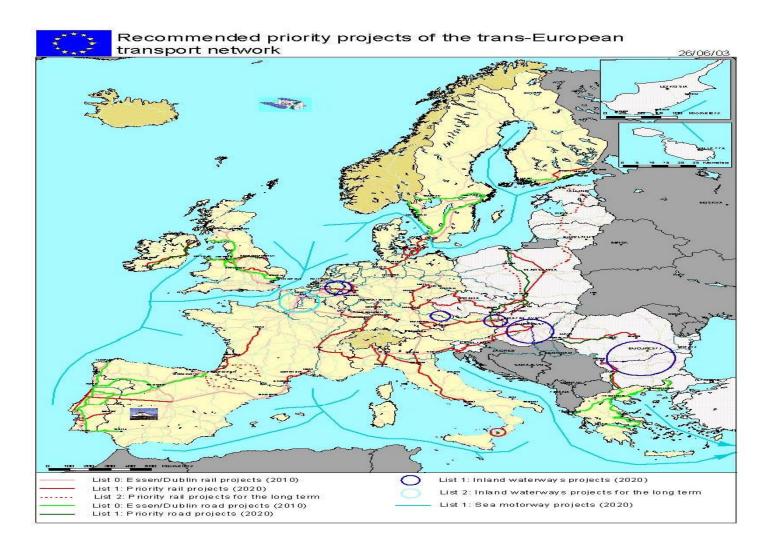




MOTORWAYS OF THE SEA (MEDITERRANEAN)











MOTORWAYS OF THE SEA (ITALY)









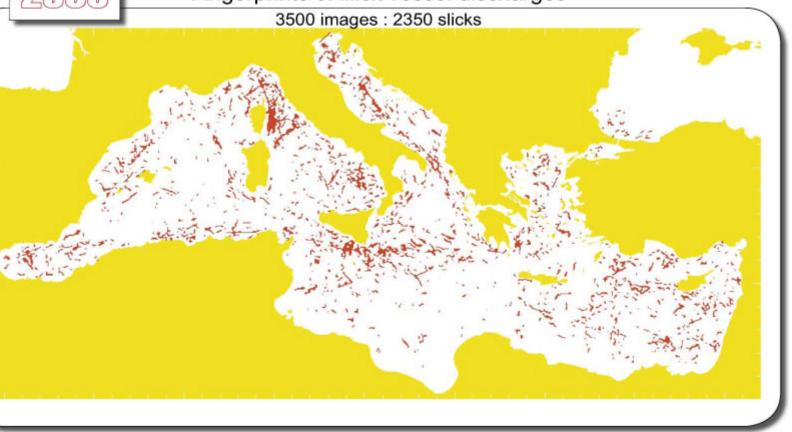


OPERATIONAL POLLUTION (Illicit discharges)











Joint Research Centre







MAP ANSWER TO THE INCREASED LEVEL OF RISK FOR THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT



To achieve a sustainable growth of maritime transport significant actions were taken within MAP as follows:

- adoption of the new Prevention-Emergency Protocol, in January 2002 (integration of prevention of marine pollution and preparedness-response to accidental pollution);
- adoption of the Catania Declaration, November 2003;
- decision to develop and adopt a Regional Strategy for the implementation of the new Protocol, based on two pillars: prevention of deliberate pollution, prevention of accidental pollution, with 21 specific objectives identified;
- specific complementary projects (CLEANMED).













(a tool to achieve sustainable development in the maritime transport)

The Regional Strategy focuses on:

- Ratification and enforcement of relevant international legal instruments
- Obligations of Contracting Parties as Flag State, Port State and Coastal State
- Monitoring of illicit discharges (operational pollution) and prosecution of offenders
- Implementations of a regional system for monitoring and surveillance of the maritime traffic, VTS (Vessel Traffic System), traffic separation schemes, emergency towing arrangements
- Establishment of Particularly Sensitive Sea Areas (PSSA's) within the framework of IMO regulations
- Further development of Ecological Protected Zones (initiative of France)
- Reception facilities for ship generated wastes
- Places of refuge







TOWARDS A SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT IN THE MEDITERRANEAN



- ➤ addressing maritime transport related issues in MSSD in co-ordination with the preparation of REMPEC Regional Strategy;
- constant dialogue with all involved and relevant stakeholders.

This approach will ensure a full coherence of sustainable growth and development of maritime transport with other sectors of the economy in the region, contributing to achieve the goals of Euro-Mediterranean Partnership and safeguarding at the same time the health of the Mediterranean Sea.









STRATEGY FOR INTEGRATED COASTAL MANAGEMENT







WHY COASTAL AREAS COUNT

- Coastal population grew from 85 million (1980) to 124 million (2000) -46% increase
- 65% of coastline is urbanised; number of coastal settlements with more than 10,000 inhabitants doubled from 1950 to 1995
- 33% of the world international tourism; 170 million international arrivals in mid 1990s
- The coast and the sea are fundamental for the food security
- Fragile ecosystems, many rare and endemic species, most of them endangered, some disappearing







PERSISTENT AND UNSUSTAINABLE

desire to get as close to the coastline as possible

incompatibility of various land uses removal of the right to free access to the coast

conflict between the long-term conservation of resources and short-term economic profits

inadequate provision of "environmental" services









PROMOTION OF INTEGRATED COASTAL AREA MANAGEMENT IN THE MEDITERRANEAN

- MCSD/CP Recommendations on ICAM (1997)
- White Paper on Coastal Management in the Mediterranean
- Coastal Area Management Programme
- Guidelines, capacity building, tools, instruments, awareness raising, information exchange







BARRIERS TO EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF ICAM

- Bureaucratic inertia
- Opposition to changes
- Opposition from multiple private economic interests
- Lack of adequate political will to start the ICAM process
- Lack of minimal financial resources to run the process
- Complexity of the legislative issues in defining the coastal zone

POGRAMME







MAJOR BREAKTHROUGH

- Protocol on Integrated Coastal Management
- Strategy for ICAM





PROTOCOL: MAJOR MILESTONES

- CP meeting in Monaco (2001): recommendation to prepare the for the ICAM protocol in the Mediterranean
- Feasibility Study prepared (2002-2003)

ROGRAMME

- CP meeting in Catania (2003): recommendation to draft the text of the protocol
- First ICAM Forum in Cagliari (2004): guidelines for preparation of the text
- CP meeting in 2005: progress report to be presented





PROTOCOL: FEASIBILITY STUDY

- protocol with general minimal content or framework protocol;
- more complete and detailed protocol, to better cover the issues;
- intermediate protocol
- intermediate option is proposed as the most appropriate.





PROTOCOL: FOLLOW UP TO THE CAGLIARI FORUM

- scoping exercise definition of priority issues (September 2004)
- setting up of the drafting group (first draft by December 2004)
- meeting of the small technical and legal expert group to discuss the draft and give recommendations to improve the first draft (January 2004)
- consultations in countries (improved first draft by March April 2005)
- government designated experts' meeting (May June 2005)
 - progress report (July 2005)
- submission of the report to MAP Focal Points (September 2005)
- submission of the report to Contracting Parties (November 2005)







ICAM STRATEGY: AIMS

- introduce strategic thinking into MAP ICAM operations and help develop effective sectoral strategies;
- clarify future direction in the field of ICAM and CAMP;
- establish priorities in ICAM activities and CAMP geographical and thematic areas;
- help that today's decisions are in line with their future consequences;
- improve MAP and its components' performance in the field of ICAM and CAMP;
- provide mechanism to adapt to changing circumstances in the coastal areas of the region and to provide quickly the right answers; and
- build adequate expertise for ICAM.







ICAM STRATEGY: PREREQUISITES

- The general status of the UNEP's Regional Seas Programme and its future strategy;
- The general orientation of MAP with regards to coastal areas management;
- The willingness of the Contracting Parties to give priority to coastal issues;
- Future development of regional legislation on integrated coastal management;
- Assessment of the opportunities for integrated coastal area management in the region; i.e. how integration is real in coastal management.







ICAM STRATEGY: BASIC GUIDELINES

- The MAP Strategy for ICAM will consist of sets of concrete actions for each general priority area.
- Strategy should build as much as possible on existing instruments programmes and resources, rather than creating new ones. It should aim to improve their use through better co-ordination, and through ensuring that they are flexible and appropriate for coastal areas.
- Approach to the Strategy could could be complemented by certain new activities, particularly with regard to the development of best practice and information diffusion.
- Strategy is expected to improve the implementation of a wide range of MAP recommendations in coastal areas.







ICAM STRATEGY: OUTLINE

- Introduction
- Vision
- State of coastal areas: main issues and problems
- Governance and institutional issues
- Strategic goals
- Strategic actions
- Strategy updating and monitoring of implementation







ICAM STRATEGY: WORKPLAN

- First expert meeting to prioritise issues
- Preparation of the preliminary draft
- Presentation and discussion of the preliminary draft
 - Preparation of the first draft of the strategy
- Consultation/Working groups on the first draft
- Second expert meeting to adopt the first draft
- Preparation of the second draft of the strategy
- Regional workshop to discuss and amend the second draft
- Preparation of the final draft
- Presentation of the final draft strategy at the PAP FPs meeting
- Presentation of the strategy at the MAP FPs meeting
- Adoption of the strategy at the Contracting Parties meeting

NGO participation in MSSD

- background paper for orientations and vision -Environment and Nat. Res. Paper - ENDA
- Barcelona MSSD workshop (March 2003)
- MCSD meeting in Cavtat, including an NGO side event (May 2003)
- NGO meeting in Madrid (Jan 2004)
- MSSD workshop Rabat (May 2004)
- Financing SD and MSSD Nice (June 2004)
- 9th MCSD Genova (today)

NGO MSSD contribution - General

- education and awareness raising and capacity building on the MSSD with a strong media component.
- mobilising national and local NGOs, to work on the MSSD
- quality inputs to the process through policy papers.

NGO MSSD contribution - Specific

- NGOs are contributing to preparations of MSSD areas for priority action, and will review the expert`s drafting of the MSSD text
- A 2-page document on the MSSD formulation process (available)
- 4 page document on MSSD content and vision (draft)
- Project proposal to hold national NGO consultations and a regional NGO conference on the MSSD.

Madrid meeting Conclusions

- The horizontal components of the MSSD are as important as the sectoral ones, - public participation, consultation processes, access to information, communication strategies, facilitating local dialogues.
- MSSD should be focussed, with selected priorities, with an achievable time-table and a realistic roadmap
- Concrete targets and objectives with criteria, and implementation mechanisms
- Differentiated responsibilities / commitments from all actors
- Should link MSSD to NSSDs and global processes (e.g MDGs)
- Wider participation, including parliamentarians, socio-economic actors, local authorities, social NGOs etc.
- Identify innovative approaches to financially support local and regional actions for SD involving all stakeholders inc. civil society.

Sustainability Impact Assessment of the Euro-Mediterranean Free Trade Area (SIA/EMFTA)

Carol Chouchani Cherfane
Regional Coordinator, SIA/EMFTA
United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

9th Meeting of the Mediterranean Commission for Sustainable Development Genoa, Italy – 17 June 2004

Background

- EC made commitment to carry out a Sustainability Impact Assessment of the Euro-Mediterranean Free Trade Area at the Euro-Mediterranean Ministerial Meeting in Stuttgart (1999)
- EC issued tender in 2002
- Tender awarded in 2003
- SIA/EMFTA project launched in 2004

Rationale

- To create an area of shared prosperity between the EU and MEDA Partners
- To ensure EMFTA enhances the sustainability of the region's economic and social development
- To examine EMFTA within the context of the EC's New Neighbourhood Policy, which seeks to support the "Four Freedoms," namely the free movement of:
 - Persons
 - Goods
 - Services
 - Capital

Objectives of the SIA/EMFTA

- To examine potential impacts of agreed trade measures on sustainable development by providing reliable analysis of the economic, social and environmental impacts of trade measures
- > To inform further negotiations
- To devise appropriate flanking measures to mitigate potential negative effects and enhance potential positive effects on sustainable development
- To ensure understanding and ownership of SIA process and project by government representatives and major stakeholder groups.

Implementation Partnerships

- EC EMFTA-SIA Steering Committee
 - Europeaid, Environment, Trade, RELEX, EEA, others
- Consortium
 - Institute for Development Policy & Management, University of Manchester (UK)
 - UN ESCWA (Lebanon)
 - Deloitte (Denmark)
 - Overseas Development Institute, ODI (UK)
 - Bocconi University (Italy)
 - Tunis International Centre for Environmental Technologies, CITET (Tunis)
 - International Centre for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies, CIHEAM (France)

Beneficiaries & Stakeholders

- Governments of EU Member States
- Governments of MEDA Partner Countries
- European Commission
- Civil Society and interested parties
- Regional Experts

SIA Process

Phase I **Preliminary** Inception **SCREENING/SCOPING** reports consultations ✓ Consultation launched ✓ Methodology finalized In-depth \Rightarrow Phase II Mid-term \Rightarrow consultations **INITIAL ASSESSMENT** report ✓ Preliminary studies √ Stakeholder comments Final report Phase III Input & \Rightarrow **FINAL ASSESSMENT** comments ✓ Impact assessment finalized √ Flanking measures **Published Critique** \Rightarrow comments by the EC

Work plan

Results and Activities	Location	1	2
1st phase – scope and methodology	Docution		
Scope of work	Consortium		
Development of the methodology and implementation framework	Consortium		
Consultation with major stakeholders	Region		
Establishment of internet based information dissemination and awareness	Consortium		
Preparation of information material	Consortium		
Meetings with the Commission/SIA Steering Committee	Brussels		
Report Submission and Presentation	Consortium, Brussels		
2 nd phase – implementation of overview study – second half year			
Broad qualitative and quantitative impact assessment for different scenarios	Consortium		
Identify mitigation, enhancement and capacity building	Consortium		
Outline issues for further analysis in the 3 rd Phase	Consortium		
Consultation with major stakeholders including regional workshops	Region		
Internet based information dissemination and awareness tools	Consortium		
Preparation of information material	Consortium		
Meetings with the Commission/SIA Steering Committee in Brussels	Brussels		
Report Submission and Presentation	Consortium, Brussels		
3 rd phase – detailed sectoral assessments			
Detailed qualitative and quantitative impact assessments	Consortium		
A proposal for a future participatory and practical monitoring mechanism	Consortium		
Conclusions and Recommendations	Consortium		
Consultation with major stakeholders including regional workshops.	Region		4
Internet based information dissemination and awareness tools	Consortium		
Preparation of information material	Consortium		
Meetings with Commission/SIA Steering Committee and regional workshops.	Brussels, Region		
Report Submission and Presentation	Consortium, Brussels		

SIA Methodology

- Negotiations as applied to the Doha Development Agenda was prepared for the EC and is being adapted to the Mediterranean Region
- EC Communication on Impact
 Assessment < COM (2002)276> and associated Guidelines
- Experience and lessons learned from other SIAs sponsored by EC and other organizations

SIA Assessment Techniques

- To support the assessment and analysis of impacts, the following tools will be drawn upon:
 - Geographical groupings and scenarios
 - Literature evaluations
 - case studies and theoretical analyses
 - Economic modelling
 - quantified results (economic), equilibrium effects
 - Causal chain analysis
 - short term and long term dynamic effects (economic, social, environmental)
 - Evaluation of significance
 - relative to base situation (geographical scale, number of people, stress, reversibility)
 - Indicators
 - checklist of broad issues, summary of results, monitoring

Consultation Strategy

- Approach seeks to:
 - To ensure balance and equity during stakeholder identification and representation of different constituencies (sectoral, geographic, etc.)
 - To form an Advisory Group of regional experts to provide guidance as interested parties
 - To inform stakeholders about the SIA project and process
 - To solicit input for the preparation of the SIA study, flanking measures and post-SIA monitoring proposal

Consultation Mechanisms

- Actions and activities include:
 - Identifying and targeting major stakeholder groups and networks
 - Informing and engaging stakeholders through face-to-face meetings, interviews, working groups and building on existing meetings of regional organizations and networks
 - Contributing to EC regional meetings during each project phase (Brussels)
 - Disseminating information and raising awareness about SIA process and project

Progress to date

- Meetings with EC EMFTA-SIA Steering Committee (twice)
- Completion of Inception Report
- Advisory Group invitations extended
- ✓ Governments being informed and invited to participate in SIA/EMFTA process
- Consultations initiated (MCSD, CAMRE, Blue Plan, ERF, mass e-mailing)
- ✓ Website launched (English, French, Arabic)

Next Steps

- Interim Report due June 2004
- Finalization of Advisory Group membership and meeting
- Nomination of SIA Focal Points
- Engage in additional consultations
- Methodology to be finalized
- Preparation of information materials
- Collection of documents, regional/national strategies and literature review

How can you contribute?

- Can you recommend any studies or reports that would be useful in developing understanding on the impact of trade measures on sustainable development in EMFTA Partner Countries?
- What do you consider the key economic, social and environmental issues related to trade liberalization in the region?
- What views and suggestions do you have on disseminating information and raising awareness about the SIA project and process, and for incorporating contributions from a wide range of experts and stakeholders?

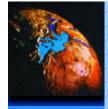
Thank you!

Website:

http://idpm.man.ac.uk/sia-trade

E-mail:

sia-trade@man.ak.uk





Évaluation Stratégique Environnementale des PME du secteur Textile et de l'Habillement au Maroc

Plan Bleu





Contexte

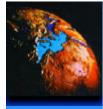
- Projet de « Renforcement des capacités des petites et moyennes entreprises dans le domaine du Commerce et Environnement »
- Financé par le programme de partenariat Banque Mondiale/Pays Bas (<u>Bank-Netherlands Partnership-Program</u>)
- Mis en œuvre dans le cadre de <u>L'Initiative MedPolicies</u>
 du Programme d'Assistance Technique
 Environnementale pour la Méditerranée (METAP),
 conduite par la Commission Économique et Sociale Pour
 l'Asie Occidentale des Nations Unies (CESAO).
- Partenariat CESAO/ Plan Bleu:
- ? Impact de la libéralisation sur l'Environnement



Quelle libéralisation?

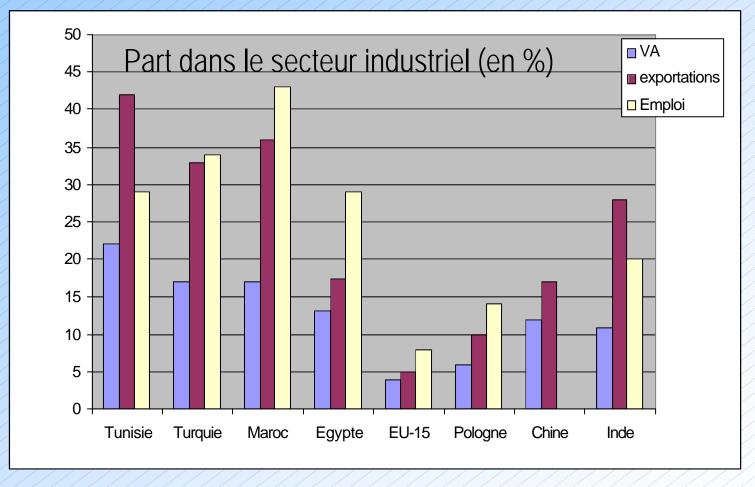


- 1. Effets de la suppression des quotas prévue par l'ATV (OMC): 1er janvier 2005; effets sur les exportations marocaines sur le marché européen (TH: les quotas doublent la protection à la frontière); leur suppression ? droits de douanes « implicites » (6 à 8%) sur les X marocaines relativement aux autres pays (surtout Chine et Inde)
- 2. Effets du démantèlement tarifaire prévu par l'accord d'association Maroc-UE: à partir de 2004 jusqu'à 2014; effets sur les importations marocaines (Les X marocaines bénéficient déjà d'une franchise en douane)





Enjeux: importance économique et sociale des TH



- •3 à 7% du PIB dans les PPM contre 1% pour l'UE
- Premier employeur et premier exportateur



Situation du secteur



- Spécialisation dans la branche Habillement (activité à forte intensité en main-d'œuvre destinée à l'exportation): exporte 91% de sa production et assure 80% des exportations du secteur TH.
- Sous-traitance (importation d'inputs, surtout de l'UE): faible relation entre l'habillement et le Textile local
- Bas salaires
- Préférence régionale accordée par l'UE: 95% des X marocaines vers l'UE



Situation du secteur



- 2. Importance des PME (moins de 200 employés) en effectifs (80% des entreprises) et faiblesse en part de production (40%), d'emploi (35%) et d'exportation (28%).
- Prédominance d'unités de petite taille (effectif inférieur à 50 personnes): 52% des entreprises et 5% de la production
- L'existence de grandes unités (plus de 200 personnes): 5% des entreprises et 60% de la production
- 3. Faible productivité



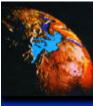
Impact actuel du TH sur l'environnement



Remarques: Absence d'informations exhaustives sur la contribution du secteur à la pollution (eau et air).

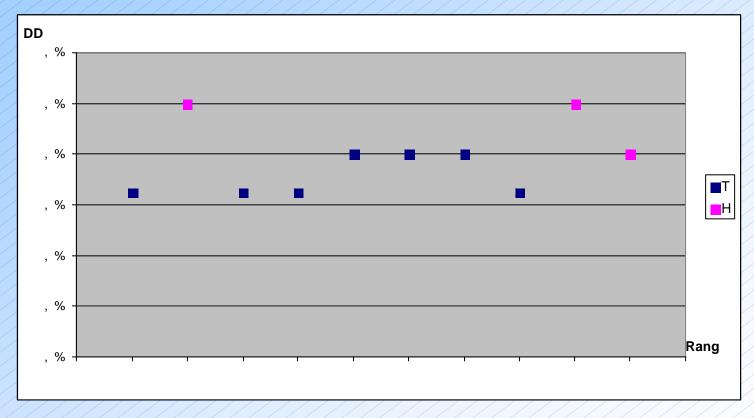
Cependant quelques indications:

- 1% des eaux résiduaires du secteur industriel
- 30% des émissions de DBO5 du secteur industriel (calcul d'après BM; WDI 2003)
- Existence de coefficients de pollution par tonne (rejets, DMO5, DCO et MES)
 (FODEP/Département Environnement)

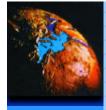




Relation intensité de pollution et protection à la frontière (les dix principales activités)



Le Textile est plus polluant que l'habillement Les deux branches sont fortement protégées

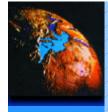




Résultat de la simulation Scénario de base

	Habillement	Textile
Effets sur les exportations	-5%	-1.2%
Effets sur les importations	4.8%	1.6%
Effets sur la production	-5.5%	-1.4%

- 40000 emplois perdus à l'horizon 2010
- «Consolation» environnementale





Scénario alternatif

Enjeu : contrecarrer l'impact négatif de la libéralisation sur la production et l'emploi et prendre des mesures pour atteindre une meilleure qualité environnementale

Repositionnement stratégique du secteur

- La Profession est consciente de la nécessité de ce repositionnement ? Accord-cadre avec les responsables
- Passage de la sous-traitance à la co-traitance: meilleure intégration entre le T et l'H
- Choix de filières : jeans et sportwear, maille fine et grosse maille, chaîne et trame, tissus d'ameublement et linge de maison
- Avantages comparatifs basés sur la main d'œuvre qualifiée, délai de réactivité, circuit court, proximité
- Cadre euro-méditerranéen : association avec des opérateurs européens



Scénario alternatif



Ce repositionnement se traduirait par :

- Une forte augmentation de la production dans ces filières: 11% par an à l'horizon 2010
- Une création de 100000 emplois à l'horizon 2010
- Cependant des pressions environnementales plus importantes: plus de rejets et d'émissions de polluants



Les mesures d'accompagnement



Au niveau économique

- Administration efficace et mise en place et renforcement de l'infrastructure matérielle
- Mobilisation des gains de productivité : formation, qualification, innovation, maîtrise des nouvelles technologies de l'information, meilleure organisation de la production
- Facilitation de dialogue entre professionnels du secteur et les pouvoirs publics
- Organisation des PME en grappes (économies d'échelle sur les investissements et les efforts requis pour leur mise à niveau)
- Application au plus vite du système pan européen des règles d'origine et du cumul diagonal
- Confirmation de la préférence euro-méditerranéenne



Les mesures d'accompagnement



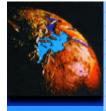
Au niveau environnemental

- Mise en place de mécanismes d'incitation et de taxation pour amener les opérateurs à adopter les meilleures techniques disponibles (ex: Projet Space 2 Tex; TOWEFO)
- Mise en place du « Fonds national pour la protection et la mise en valeur de l'Environnement » prévu par la loi 2003.
- Le respect des normes environnementales européennes (ex: suppression des colorants azoïques) nécessite une assistance technique (information sur les techniques, R/D, formation) et une réorientation de l'aide financière vers la protection de l'environnement
- Assistance technique pur l'identification et préparation à l'accès de niches « produits propres »



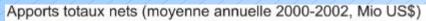


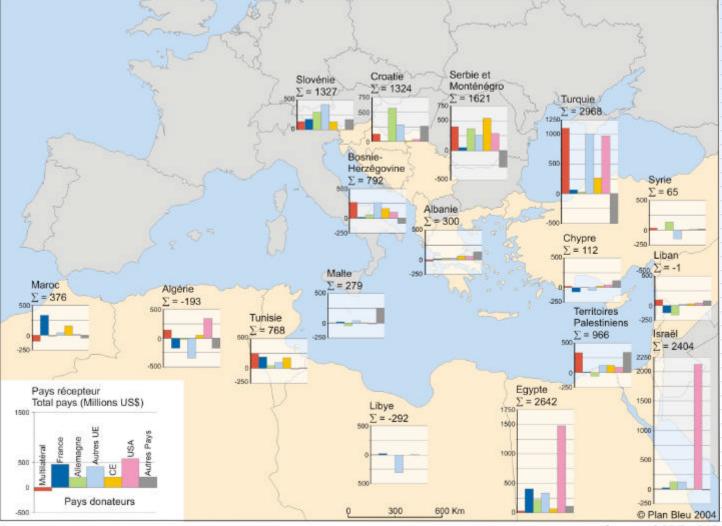
Financement et Coopération pour le Développement Durable en Méditerranée





Apports totaux nets en méditerranée Moyenne annuelle 2000-02 (Millions US\$)



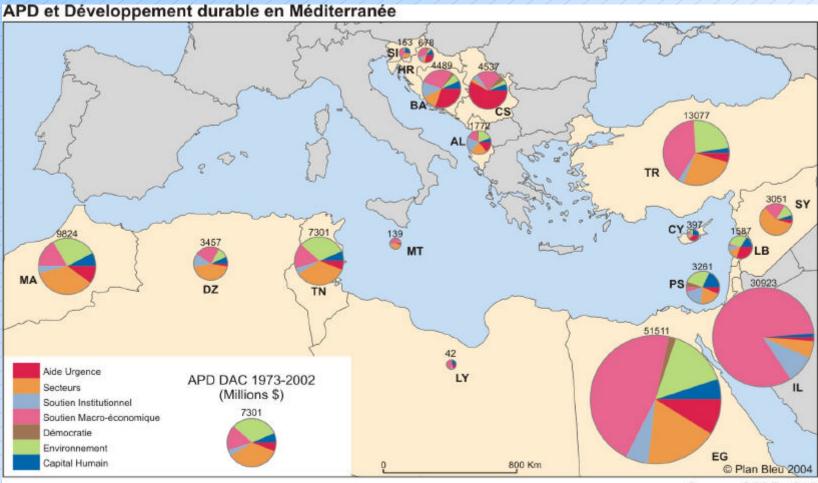


Source : OCDE - CAD





L'APD et le Développement Durable en Méditerranée CAD donneurs 1973-2002 (Millions US\$)



Source : OCDE - CAD



9th MCSD

MSSD VISION & ORIENTATIONS

GENOA, 17-19 JUNE 2004





PROCESS OVERVIEW

- ✓ BARCELONA WORKSHOP, PILLARS
- √ 8TH MCSD, DRAFT VISION/ORIENT
- ✓ MCSD/SC, VISION+ORIENTATION
- ✓ 13TH CP, "TAKE NOTE"/COMMENTS
- ✓ MCSD/SC, METHOD, AGRI, CASES
- ✓ RABAT WORKSHOP, OBJECTIVES+
- ✓ 10TH MCSD, CONTENTS+PREP
- ✓ INTERSESSIONS, MCSD, CP 05





ONEP/MAP

REGIONAL SD VISION

- STRATEGIC REVIEW: CULTURE OF CHANGE & REFORMS
- CHALLENGES/SOCIAL CONTRACTS
 - DEV & ENV PROTECTION
 - POVERTY & INEQUALITY
 - INNOVATION & ENTERPRENEURSHIP
 - CULTURAL DIVERSITY
 - GOVERNANCE & ETHICS, BUT
 - NEED PEACE & SECURITY





MSSD ORIENTATIONS

- DIAGNOSTIC:
 - **-ASYMETRY**
 - -FINANCIAL DISTRESS
 - RENT ECONOMY
 - ECOLOGICAL PROBLEMS
 - EDUCATION/RESEARCH/INOV
 - GOVERNANCE DEFICIT





MSSD ORIENTATIONS

- CHALLENGES:
 - GLOBALIZATION
 - -POVERTY & ILLITERACY
 - REFORM EDUCATION SECT.
 - COMPETITIVE BUSINESS
 - MNGT NAT RES & POLLUT.
 - -SD IN ODA & COOP





MSSD ORIENTATIONS

- AREAS FOR PRIORITY ACTIONS:
 - WATER
 - ENERGY
 - TRANSPORT
 - AIR/CLIMATE
 - MARINE & COASTAL ZONES
 - TOURISM
 - URBAN DEV & MNGT
 - [AGRI & RURAL DEV]





PREP for MSSD

- **✓ MULTIDISCIPLINARY TEAM**
- REALISTIC/MEASURABLE TARGETS TIMEBOUND, V/S MDG/JPOI & MED
- ✓ PARTICIPATORY APPROACH
- IMPLEMENTATION MEANS, TECH., INSTITUTION, CB
- FUNDS:LOCAL-NAT. VS EXT. RES., TAX, ODA, FDI, REMITTANCES, DEBT SWAPS
- FOLLOW UP, INDICATORS





Tions Fractionment Programme Mediterraneen Ac

FINAL REMARKS

- ✓ SOCIAL+GOVERNANCE in MAP
- REGIONAL COOP, COMPLEX
- ✓ AUTHORITY MAP V/S EC/BALTIC
- ADVISE V/S DECIDE
- CORRESPONDING POLITICAL & FINANCIAL MEANS
- STILL MSSD a REG+NAT FRAMEWORK for POLICY/ACTION, PARTICIPATION & COOPERATION, through relevant programs & "SAPs"





9th MCSD

MSSD PREPARATION "THEMATIC" OBJECTIVES

GENOA, 17-19 JUNE 2004





PREPARATORY PROCESS

- ✓ MSSD, OBJECTIVES, POLICY ACTIONS VS MAP 3
- ✓ LESSONS FROM OTHERS: EU, BALTIC, ASIA
- ✓ METHODOLOGY: OECD/UNDP
- ✓ RELEVANT & REALISTIC OBJECTIVES PER PRIORITY
- ✓ WAYS & MEANS, VALUE ADDED
- ✓ USE EXISTENT INFO & ASSOCIATE PARTNERS





OBJECTIVES

- SSD: OUTCOME & PROCESS
- SPECIFIC THEMATIC OBJECTIVES +
- VALUE ADDED TO STRATEGIC CHALLENGES, and
- MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION, GOV. & INSTITUTIONAL REQUIREMENTS
- STRUCTURE "THEMATIC" SHEETS:
 - STATUS & STAKES
 - CHALLENGES & OBJECTIVES
 - ACTIONS & MEANS





THEMATIC SHEETS

- NOT A RE-DRAFTING GROUP
- ADVISE ON FORMAT & STRUCTURE
- COHERENCE & RELEVANCE OF CONTENTS
- GAPS & SUGGESTIONS
- TASK MANAGERS/SUPPORT
- CROSS-CHECKING, SYNERGIES, CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES





UNEPIME POGESHING A P

CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

- RELATED TO MSSD SET OF CHALLENGES, and their INTEGRATION
- REFORMS REQUIRED
- NECESSARY MEANS
- EDUCATION, CB, FINANCING, COOPERATION





UNE Programme Meditorranean Acti

THEMATIC SHEETS: NEXT

- REVIEW BY MAP, TM & EXPERTS: JULY-SEPTEMBER 04
- COMMENTS MCSD MEMBERS: OCT. 04
- MEETING OF STEERING COMMITTEE NOVEMBER 04
- INTEGRATION IN MSSD REPORT: NOV. 04-FEBRUARY 05
- REGIONAL WORKSHOP TO REVIEW FIRST DRAFT OF MSSD, MARCH 05
- STEERING COMMITTEE, APRIL 05, and 10TH MCSD, JUNE 05





Italian Ministry for the Environment and Territory

"Mediterranean Dialogue Along the Grid" Side Event Background paper Thursday, June 17 18:00 - 19:30

The Mediterranean Region includes countries bordering both the North and South of the Mediterranean basin with different economic, social and environmental conditions, but very strong regional, historical and cultural links. The energy sector plays a key role in the Mediterranean Region to strengthen cooperation and intensify dialogue between these countries. Energy can be the principle vehicle to connect countries which belong to the so called "cradle of civilization". The grid is not only a vehicle to transport electricity between Mediterranean countries but also a tool for integration towards the common goal of sustainable development.

Renewable energy contributes to sustainable development providing access to energy, mitigating greenhouse gas emissions, reducing harmful air pollutants and creating new economic opportunities, enhancing energy security.

In this context, MEDREP – the Mediterranean Renewable Type II Energy Initiative- was launched by Italy at the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) in Johannesburg in 2002. The Mediterranean Renewable Energy Programme's objective is the deployment of renewable energy sources and technologies in the energy sector across the greater Mediterranean Region, in order to alleviate poverty, by providing modern energy services particularly to rural populations, and to contribute to climate change mitigation, by increasing the share of renewable energy technologies in the energy mix in the Region. MEDREC, the Centre for training, information dissemiation, networking and development of pilot prjects in the field fo renewable energy, has been recently established in Tunis to devolp pilot projects and transfer technologies in the field of renewable energy.

The Centre, being the reference point for the MEDREP activities in the South Mediterranean countries, represents an example of international co-operation that will lead to unprecedent results in the promotion of Renewable energies in the Region.

MEDREP takes advantage of the 2001 Co-Chairmen's G8 Renewable Energy Task Force Report, whose principal finding is that "Renewable energy resource can now sharply reduce local, regional, and global environmental impacts as well as energy security risks, and they can, in some circumstances, lower costs for consumers". The barriers that impede an expansion of the market can be addressed by reducing technology costs, building a strong market environment, mobilising financing, encouraging market-based mechanisms.

Guiding questions for the talk-show debate

Renewables for a sustainable development in the Mediterranean Region

Renewable energy development has a high potential to contribute to sustainable development in the Mediterranean Region. It assists the acceleration of socio-economic development via providing economically sound and available and safe energy supply; it helps improving the living conditions of the populations by providing access to energy in rural communities that cannot be economically reached by large electric infrastructure; it increases the employment level and reduce the development gap by creating jobs in the energy field, encouraging regional cooperation and creating international networks.

Renewable energy aims to improve living and working conditions. Through the potential of locally generating power, e.g., by solar, wind and biomass energy utilisation, Mediterranean countries can afford to build and operate water pumping, water desalination and food storage cooling systems, besides other electric equipments that will change their quality of life, their living conditions and their status of health, while protecting environmental and natural resources in order not to hamper economic and social well being.

Renewable energy development is usually mentioned as a key factor towards the implementation of sustainable development. How can deployment of renewables contribute to achieve a greater social and economic cohesion within the Mediterranean Region? Which kind of social, economic and cultural implications can have the development of renewable energy sources?

Renewable energy policies, financial instruments, and capacity building

Although fossil fuels will remain dominant in the next thirty years, the main challenge will be the expansion of renewable energy markets, decreasing technology costs and supporting investors and promoting projects in the sector.

Up to-day, subsidies to conventional energies and lack of accounting for external costs in the market, represent the two major conditions that bias current markets against renewables. Consequently, renewable technologies are not economically competitive compared to traditional ones; developing countries are often lacking in suitable human and institutional infrastructures to support the market; banking and financing sectors often do not tackle the risk to mobilize the necessary capital to support investors and to encourage customers; incentives and supporting policies are often weak and badly oriented.

Recent experiences¹ suggest that the need for effective and comprehensive regulations increases with restructuring, liberalization and privatization in the energy sector. The financial sector and private investments should provide the necessary finance for renewables to overcome the initial costs in the early stage of a technology. Innovative financing and contracting schemes can be instrumental in overcoming barriers. Furthermore, strengthened capacity is particularly important in three main areas: development of a well-trained workface to manufacture, install, operate and maintain technology; design of a coherent and functioning institutional framework; provision of available, appropriate and affordable technologies. Capacity development in all three areas is essential for the creation of viable renewable energy markets. Finally, a sustainable future for renewables requires that markets function effectively and efficiently.

What are the key strategies (establishing policy priorities, expanding financing options, building capacities) to be adopted both at National and International level to enhance renewable energy markets in the Mediterranean Region?

The Kyoto Mechanisms and the Tradable Renewable Energy Certificates to enhance cooperation and synergies between Northern and Sourthern Mediterranean Countries

The Kyoto Protocol Flexible Mechanisms and Tradable Renewable Energy Certificates (TRECs) may have a growing role to play in the future for fostering the deployment of renewables in developing countries, stimulating new renewable energy projects and investments. The Clean Development Mechanim allows countries with binding greenhouse gas emission reduction targets (Annex-I Parties) to implement projects that reduce emissions in non-Annex I Parties by generating Certified Emission Reductions (CERs). The consequent market value of CERs will determine the development of CDM projects in developing

¹ Policies Reccomandations for Renewable Energies, International Conference for Renewable Energy, Bonn 1-4 June 2004

countries. Such projects will be undertaken if they yield CERs at a cost lower that the market value, and below the cost of domestic emission reductions.

The same benefits are generated by the Joint Implementation Mechanism (JI), allowing Central and Eastern European countries and industrialized countries to work together to meet their targets, and by the implementation of projects generating TRECs.

At the same time, CDM and JI projects and projects generating TRECs represent effective actions in combating climate change and could lead to significant wealth and technology transfers from Northern to the greater Southern and Eastern Mediterranean Countries.

Which opportunities are offered by the Flexible Mechanims (Clean Development Mechanism and Joint Implementation) and Tradable Renewable Energy Certificate to foster the renewable energy deployment in the Mediterranean Region? Which are concrete pilot projects and programmes undertaken?

Agenda

Thursday, June 17 18:00 - 19:30

- 18.00 18.10 Introduction: the Meditarranean Action Plan and the Mediterranean Renewable Energy Programme
 - Co-Chairs Mr Corrado Clini, Director General Italian Ministry for the Environment and Territory Mr Paul Mifsud, UNEP Mediterranean Action Plan Coordinator
- **18.10 19 .10 Panel talk show, Facilitator Jacopo Giliberto**, eminent journalist of the financial and economic magazine "Il Sole 24 ORE"
 - **Speakers Mr Mohammed Si Yucef**, General Secretary, Ministry of Territory and Environment, Algeria

Mr Stephane Pouffary, Coordinator of International Activities, Agency for Environment and Energy Management (ADEME), France

Mr Aldo lacomelli, Secretary General, International Solar Energy Society ITALY

Ms Houda Allal, Deputy Director, Mediterranean Renewable Energy Centre (MEDREC), Tunisia

Ms Marta Bonifert, Executive Director, The Regional Environmental Centre for Central and Eastern Europe (REC)

- 19.10 -19.20 Discussion
- 19.20 19.30 Closing remarks



Italian Ministry for the Environment and Territory Department for Environmental Research and Development

ADRICOSM PARTNERSHIP

ADRIatic sea integrated COastal areaS and river basin Management system

A Type II Initiative launched in Johannesburg at the World Summit on Sustainable Development

THE FRAMEWORK

- The ADRICOSM Pilot Project was launched in 2001 within the Adriatic Ionian Initiative
- At the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg 2002, ADRICOSM was accepted as a Type II Initiative
- New projects will start in 2004 to continue the ADRICOSM Development
- The ADRICOSM Partnership is coordinated by the National Institute of Geophysics and Volcanology (INGV) and involves 35 partners from Italy France

CATCHMENT AREA AND OVERALL OBJECTIVES



The ADRICOSM Partnership

- ADRICOSM Pilot Project
- ADRICOSM EXTension to be started in September 2004
- ADRICOSM Pula Bay: apply the ADRICOSM integrated coastal area modelling to Pula Bay to be started in 2004
- ADRICOSM –NERES: apply the ADRICOSM integrated river and coastal area modelling to the Neretva river, to be started in 2005

The success and the future of ADRICOSM Partnership



9th Meeting of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development

Baltic 21, Side event 19 June 2004

Mr. Lars Westermark, Baltic 21 Secretariat and Anne-Cerise Nilsson, Swedish representative to the Senior Official's Group (SOG) of Baltic 21 introduced the Baltic 21 history and made some reflections on the similarities and differences with the work in the Mediterranean Region as well as on progress and shortcomings of the Baltic 21 process.

Mr. Westermark started his presentation of the Baltic Sea cooperation by showing some characteristics of the Region. The East-West divide was illustrated by indicators such as GDP, and life expectancy that clearly show two groups of countries. The new market economies of the east part are still lagging behind the old market economies.

Baltic 21 was initiated by the Prime Ministers of the region in 1996, The Action program, "An Agenda 21 for the Baltic Sea Region" was subsequently adopted by the Ministers for Foreign affairs in 1998. Baltic 21 is looking back on five years of implementation.

Cornerstones of Baltic 21 are the multistakeholder character and the responsibility of the Sectors to set their own targets and devise the actions needed to reach them.

The chosen approach of Baltic 21 is a pragmatic one. The document "An Agenda 21 for the Baltic Sea Region" is to its nature an action programme rather than a strategy. Sustainable development is not foreseen to be accomplished by the actions of Baltic 21 alone. But, undertaking the actions would complement other activitities i.e. national and help to move the region in the right direction, towards sustainable development. The Helsinki Convention is an instrument for the protection of the marine environment. Its operative body, the Helsinki Commission is a member of Baltic 21.

Ms. Anne-Cerise Nilsson gave an account for the political support that Baltic 21 is benefiting from. The Baltic Sea States Ministers of the Environment have at their Meeting in August 2003, given elements to be reflected in the future work of Baltic 21 as well as supported the process to obtain sector-overarching guidance and a new mandate for the future work of Baltic 21 by the Baltic Sea States Summit. A new mandate for Baltic 21 was expected from the 5th Baltic Sea States Summit on the following Monday (June 21st).

In the following discussion it was revealed that the high level political commitment is one explanation for success of having the sectors involved in proposing their own goals and actions when the action plan was developed, although the delegates in the Baltic 21 steering body (SOG) often have a back ground in the Ministry for the Environment. Climate change is dealt with in some sectors like within the energy sector that has established a regional Testing Ground for the flexible mechanisms of the Kyoto Protocol. It was commented on the fact that the pollution of the Baltic Sea makes some fish species inedible. As the Baltic 21 process does not rely on a legal framework it cannot issue recommendations or develop binding protocols. When it comes to financing there is no special financial mechanism for Baltic 21 (as compared to the MEDA programme). Baltic 21 has to rely on for the most part voluntary contributions from member countries and various EU programmes such as INTERREG. The organization of Baltic 21 work and the pragmatic model of opting for

an action program instead of beginning with a strategy were considered to be very interesting by the participants of the side event.

Mr. Lascaratos kindly facilitated the side event.

Enclosed please find the 5 year Report and the Chairman's conclusions from the Fith Baltic Sea States Summit 21 June 2004.