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5th Meeting of the Ecosystem Approach Coordination Group

Rome, Italy, 14-15 September 2015

Agenda item 2: Organizational Matters

Provisional Annotated Agenda

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Introduction

Based on the Ecosystem Approach Roadmap, as agreed at the 18th Meeting of the Contracting Parties and on the directions set by the Contracting Parties in their expert level meetings and in the 4th Meeting of the Ecosystem Approach Coordination Group, the current meeting will discuss and recommend for adoption to the Meeting of the MAP Focal Points (October 2015) the draft Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme of the Mediterranean Sea and Coast and Related Assessment Criteria (draft IMAP) and will set directions for follow-up on the draft Ecosystem Approach based Measures Gap Analysis (the Measures Gap Analysis).

The Secretariat has developed, following the comments, suggestions of the Contracting Parties, as well as the ongoing work of the informal online working groups, the draft IMAP and the draft Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Guidance, as a basis to form the core of the implementation of the Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme, in its initial phase, in between 2016-2019.

In addition, the informal online working groups of Biodiversity and Non-Indigenous Species, Contaminants, Eutrophication and Marine Litter gave important input into the above documents and also developed some specific recommendations, including, when available on the usage of assessment criteria and on future key steps to be undertaken during the initial phase of the implementation of the Integrated monitoring and Assessment Programme. Also for Coast and Hydrography an informal online working group has recently been established and will soon provide specific recommendations document (UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.420 /Inf.15).

While the draft IMAP sets out the key principles, objectives and products of the foreseen monitoring and assessment work in the Mediterranean (including assessment criteria, when available), the draft Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Guidance aims to provide the technical ground to the Contracting Parties for the implementation of IMAP.

The Measures Gap Analysis aims to analyze existing Barcelona Convention/Protocols measures relating to the implementation of the Ecosystem Approach and based on this analysis, enable the Ecosystem Approach Coordination Group to further reflect on key necessary or strengthened measures for the implementation of Ecosystem Approach.

In line with the above, the 5th Meeting of the Ecosystem Approach Coordination Group aims to:

- Discuss and recommend for adoption the draft IMAP;
- Discuss and agree on the content of the draft Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Guidance, with specific recommendations;
- Discuss the Measures Gap Analysis and give clear directions for future work on a UNEP/MAP Barcelona Convention Programme of Measures.

Provisional Annotated Agenda

Day One / 14 September 2015

Agenda item 1: Opening of the Meeting (09.30-09.45)

The Meeting will be opened by the Barcelona Convention Secretariat and the Host Country.

Agenda item 2: Organizational Matters (09:45-10.00)

The Rules and Procedures for meetings and Conferences of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean and its Protocols will apply *mutatis mutandis* to the present meeting (UNEP/IG.43/6, Annex XI).

The Meeting shall elect a Chairperson, two Vice-Chairpersons and a Rapporteur. The Provisional Agenda (UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.420/1) annotated in the present document (UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.420/2) will be reviewed, amended as necessary, and adopted by the Meeting.

Simultaneous translation in English and French will be provided during the Meeting.

The Meeting is expected to adopt a list of Conclusions and Recommendations.

Agenda item 3: Draft Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme (10:00-17:00)

The Secretariat will present the draft IMAP (UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.420/3) and the draft Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Guidance (UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.420/4).

Following this, the above two documents will be discussed in the clusters of (i) Biodiversity and Fisheries; (ii) Pollution and Litter; (iii) Coast and Hydrography.

During the cluster-based discussions, the lead countries will present the key recommendations of the informal online working groups and the Secretariat will reflect on how these were taken into account in the draft IMAP (UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.420/3) and in the draft Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Guidance (UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.420/4).

After the detailed discussions related to (i) Biodiversity and Fisheries; (ii) Pollution and Litter; (iii) Coast and Hydrography, the Contracting Parties will discuss common challenges related to the draft Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme and to its future implementation.

The Contracting Parties will have the opportunity to comment both on the draft IMAP and on the underlying work of the specific clusters, as presented in the draft Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Guidance (UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.420/4) and in the Recommendations of the online groups on pollution and litter (UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG. 420/6).

Expected outcome: The EcAp Coordination Group Meeting will recommend for adoption the draft IMAP and will agree on the content of the Draft Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Guidance (with specific comments if any).

Day Two / 15 September 2015

Agenda item 4: Draft Ecosystem Approach based Measures Gap Analysis (09.30-11.30)

The Secretariat will present the draft Ecosystem Approach based Measures Gap Analysis (UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.420/5). Detailed comments will be provided by the participants.

Expected outcome: The EcAp Coordination Group Meeting will provide recommendations on the draft Ecosystem Approach based Measures Gap Analysis and will give clear directions to the Secretariat for the future work on the UNEP/MAP Barcelona Convention Programme of Measures.

Agenda item 5: Conclusions and Recommendations (12:00-12:45)

Participants will recommend for adoption to the MAP Focal Points Meeting of October 2015, with some key recommendations, the draft IMAP.

They will give recommendations and agree on the main content of the Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Guidance and will provide specific recommendations on the EcAp Measures Gap Analysis and on the way forward regarding the UNEP/MAP Barcelona Convention Programme of Measures.

Expected outcome: The meeting participants will adopt a list of Conclusions and Recommendations

Agenda item 6: Any Other Business (12:45-13.00)

Participants will have the opportunity to raise any other relevant business.

Agenda item 7: Closure of the meeting (13.00)

The Chairperson will close the Meeting at 13.00 hours on 15th of September 2015.

Provisional Timetable

Monday, 14 September 2015	
09.00 – 09.30	<i>Registration</i>
09.30.– 10:00	<i>Agenda item 1: Opening of the meeting Agenda item 2: Election of officers and adoption of the agenda</i>
10.00-11.00	<i>Agenda item 3: Draft Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme</i>
11.00-11.15	<i>Coffee Break</i>
11.15-13.00	<i>Agenda item 3: Continued discussions on the Draft Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme</i>
13.00-14.30	<i>Lunch Break</i>
14.30-15.30	<i>Agenda item 3: Continued discussions on the Draft Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme</i>
15.30-15.45	<i>Coffee Break</i>
15.45-17.00	<i>Agenda item 3: Continued discussions on the Draft Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme</i>
Tuesday, 15 September 2015	
09.30.– 11:30	<i>Agenda item 4: Draft Ecosystem Approach based Measures Gap Analysis</i>
11.30-12.00	<i>Coffee Break</i>
12.00-12.45	<i>Agenda item 5: Conclusions and Recommendations</i>
12.45-13.00	<i>Agenda item 6: Any Other Business</i>
13.00	<i>Agenda item 7: Closure of the meeting</i>