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**UNITED NATIONS
ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME
MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN**

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20th Meeting of the Executive Coordination Panel (ECP)

Athens, Greece, 8 October 2014

Report of the Meeting - Notes and Action Points

EXECUTIVE COORDINATION PANEL (ECP)**Twentieth Meeting****8 October 2014, Athens, Greece****Notes and Action Points****Agenda item 1. Opening of the Meeting and adoption of the agenda**

1. Gaetano Leone, UNEP/MAP Coordinator, opened the meeting and welcomed the participants. He also briefed the ECP members on his recent missions to the EC in Brussels, Tunisia, and Italy, and of developments relevant to their work.
2. The meeting was attended by:
 - Gaetano Leone, Coordinator, UNEP/MAP
 - Khalil Attia, Director of SPA/RAC
 - Hugues Ravenel, Director of PB/RAC
 - Zeljka Scaricic, Director of PAP/RAC
 - Enrique Villamore de Martin, Director of SCP/RAC
 - Gabino Gonzales, Programme Officer, REMPEC
 - Habib El Habr, Deputy Coordinator of UNEP/MAP, Officer-in-charge MED POL
 - Atila Uras, Programme Officer, UNEP/MAP
3. The ECP reviewed and adopted the Provisional Agenda as contained in document UNEP(DEPI)/MED ECP.20/1.

Agenda item 2. Midterm Strategy (MTS) Development Process (update on External Evaluation, roadmap, key milestones, role-sharing, alignment of parallel processes)

4. The process for the development of the Midterm Strategy, together with the revised timeline as agreed at the 78th Bureau Meeting was shared with ECP members. Following the discussions, it was agreed to strive for coherence of all existing regional products, keeping in mind the specificity of MAP Components' and Secretariat's mandates and the on-going work of reviewing the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD).
5. It was noted that the MTS will be mainly for providing guidance and should be considered more an "internal" document, whereas the other regional processes aim to set stage for involvement of external actors in their implementations.
6. The ECP discussed an initial set of themes that will be developed further by the CU in an issues paper for further consultation. An exercise was carried out on a preliminary draft list of Issues and Challenges, Responses/Actions/Techniques/Approaches, Strategies/Action Plans/Legal framework, Means/Tools and Guiding principles to support the Midterm Strategy Development process. Some issues to consider are as follows:
 - PoW does not need to follow the structure of Midterm Strategy (MTS). It can be result-oriented and integrated.
 - The frame of MTS can be built on sectors or challenges.
 - The mission should consider natural stocks' quality and quantity and integration of environment into sector policies.

- Integration, consistency and complementarity should be guiding principles on alignments of regional strategic processes of MSSD review and SCP Action Plan.

The outcome of the discussion is in Annex 1.

- Update on the progress of parallel and complementary processes of Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) Regional Action Plan by SCP/RAC Director, MSSD review by PB/RAC Director and ICZM Action Plans by PAP/RAC Director were provided.
- The 2016-2017 Programme of Work will be developed at a later stage, reflecting the MTS. MAP system Components will be fully involved in the process and use their respective Focal Points Meetings to obtain inputs and mobilize support. The ECP underlined the importance of involvement of RACs either through ECP or the task forces in all the above-mentioned processes.

#	Action item	Responsible	Deadline
1	A joint calendar of all on-going regional processes of MSSD, SCP Action Plan, MTS and others will be prepared and shared with ECP	AU	24 October 2014
2	MSSD Task Force will be informed about the MSSD review process in a timely manner and their effective involvement should be ensured	HR and AU	22 October 2014
3	First draft issues paper on MTS process will be shared with ECP.	AU	24 October 2014

Agenda item 3. Discussion on implementation of Decision IG 21/16

- With reference to the Bureau recommendation to the Secretariat to start the implementation of Decision 21/16 as soon as possible with the view of completing it by COP 19, with the full involvement of all relevant MAP components, building on their strength, capacity and mandate, a discussion was held on the way forward.
- Considering the ambiguity of the decision and the lack of budgeted resources and very tight time constraints, the ECP members considered it realistic to launch the process with the Bureau's endorsement on the assessment of MAP II. The CU will identify relevant work already done in on-going processes to feed such an assessment. It was also felt that in general MAP II provides an adequate framework for sustainable development in the Mediterranean.

#	Action item	Responsible	Deadline
4	Include in the agenda of 79 th Meeting of the Bureau an item on abovementioned decision of ECP.	The Secretariat	As per Bureau preparations calendar

Agenda item 4. Any other matters

11. COP 19 date will be agreed on after the Coordinator consults with the Greek Government and President of the Bureau. ECP will be informed on the progress.
12. Regarding the 40th Anniversary of MAP (MAP 40), ECP discussed possible options to raise visibility of MAP:
 - It is a fact that limitations exist on resources and budget.
 - Private sector involvement will be sought for MAP 40 celebrations.
 - A new website could be a good product.
 - Universal ratification of Barcelona Convention will be an excellent communication material during MAP 40 celebrations.
 - There is interest in Bureau and parties to carry out activities on MAP 40.
 - Communications Task Force should start working and a communications plan (with a timeline) should be brought to next ECP Meeting.
 - RAC FP Meetings, Expo Milano in June 2015, Coast Day in September 2015, Switch-Med Conference in October 2015 should be considered as opportunities for communications events for MAP 40.
 - 79th Bureau may launch the MAP 40 process.
13. It was agreed to arrange, on 15 December 2014, a one day introduction where each RAC will provide information on its work programme to identify potential linkages between RACs. Additionally, at each ECP an introductory session will be included in the agenda, where the hosting /selected RAC will provide information on its work to the others.
14. The 21st Meeting of the ECP will be held in Rome, with kind hosting of Info/RAC, on 15 and 16 December 2014.

#	Action item	Responsible	Deadline
5	Communications Task Force should meet in November and provide ECP20 with a Communications Plan on MAP 40.	HE	30 November 2014
6	The Coordinator will inform ECP on possible dates of COP 19.	GL	Before end of 2014

Agenda item 5. Closure of the Meeting

15. The meeting was closed at 17:00 on 8 October 2014.

Annex 1**Reference notes for MTS initiation process****Initial draft list of issues and challenges** (*strategic axes / business areas*)

Degradation of Biodiversity and Ecosystems

Climate change

Pollution (Marine litter and chemicals)

Over-use of resources (Coastal zones and marine areas (Offshore included), living resources, non-living resources)

Other threats/impacts listed in SoER-MED

[EMERGING ISSUES TO BE HIGHLIGHTED]

Responses/Actions/Techniques/Approaches

EcAp

Coastal and marine management

SCP

CC Adaptation

Strategies/Action Plans/Legal framework

CC Adaptation Strategy

Convention and Protocols (legally binding)

Regional Action Plans (ML, ICZM, others)

NAPs/SAPs

MSSD

Roadmaps

Means/tools

Information and communications

Knowledge Management

Capacity Development

Technical Assistance

Science policy interface

M&E (indicators)

Guiding principles (to be improved)

Integration

Partnership

Consistency

Coherency

Transparency

Inclusiveness

Participation

Information sharing

Cooperation