

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Report of the meeting

- Annex I:** List of Participants
- Annex II:** Agenda of the Meeting
- Annex III:** Project Implementation Review for 2009/2010
- Annex IV:** Status of World Bank Investment Fund and “Sustainable Med”
Projects

REPORT OF THE MEETING

Introduction

1. The Second MedPartnership Coordination Group Meeting for the “Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Sea Large Marine Ecosystem” was held at the Italian Institute for Environmental Protection and Research (ISPRA), Rome, Italy from the 18 to 19 October 2010.

Participation

2. The following Coordination Group members were represented: UNEP/MAP, UNEP/DGEF, World Bank, EC, FAO, UNIDO, UNESCO-IHP, MEDPOL, SPA/RAC, PAP/RAC, ISPRA (the new institution to act as INFO/RAC), CP/RAC, WWF MedPO, MIO-ECSDE, GWP-Med and the UNEP/MAP Project Management Unit.

3. The full list of participants is attached as **Annex I** to the present report.

Opening of the meeting, objectives of the meeting, introduction of the participants

4. The meeting was opened by Ms Maria Dalla Costa, Head of Service, International Relations of the Italian Institute for Environmental Protection and Research (ISPRA) and Ms. Maria Luisa Silva Mejias, Deputy Coordinator of the United Nations Environment Programme, Mediterranean Action Plan (UNEP/MAP) and Officer-in-Charge. Ms. Dalla Costa expressed her pleasure to host this meeting of the implementing partners of the MedPartnership, and was happy to see to see the EC also attending. She wished all participants a successful meeting.

5. Ms Maria Luisa Silva Mejias gave a brief presentation of the role of UNEP/MAP in the MedPartnership, which she noted is much more than just a project, consisting of a UNEP/MAP component and a World Bank Investment Fund and bringing together twelve organisations together and 38 sources of funding to work towards the preservation & protection of the Mediterranean Seas Large Marine Ecosystem (LME). This is a perfect example that the sum is far better than the parts. The MedPartnership is anchored in and aims to support the implementation of the Barcelona Convention, its protocols including the new Protocol for Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM). It also facilitates the implementation of actions adopted in the two regional Strategic Action Programmes (SAPs) for the reduction of pollution from land-based sources and the conservation of biological diversity. Ms Mejias stressed the importance of these coordination meetings, and recalled that aim of the 1st Steering Committee meeting held in Montenegro, where all countries confirmed their commitment to the MedPartnership, was to validate the MedPartnership activities, in particular the UNEP/MAP led regional component, and therefore the focus on this coordination meeting and the next Steering Committee meeting should be on results of this process. The Project Implementation Review (PIR) recently completed should be used as a basis for discussions, and whilst it is early days for the MedPartnership to have great achievements, the main results and good practices can already be presented and obstacles identified. She concluded by thanking all partners for their attendance and the Project Management Unit (PMU) for coordinating the meeting.

6. Mr Ivica Trumbic, Project Manager for the Regional Component of the MedPartnership, reminded participants that this is a technical meeting to assess the status of implementation so far, identify strengths and weakness' and agree on the recommendations to adopt accordingly in

order to meet the immediate and long term objectives of the project. Using this as a basis, the participants should also agree on the plan for preparation of the Steering Committee meeting, provisionally scheduled for March 2011 in Syria, which should include the completion of a 2010 Annual report, new detailed work-plan and any revisions to activities.

MedPartnership status of implementation

7. Ms. Kelly West, UNEP Division of GEF (UNEP/DGEF) Task Manager informed participants that the Project Implementation Review (PIR) for the Regional Component of the MedPartnership had just been sent to the GEF Secretariat the previous Friday and explained that this is the key document that enables the GEF Secretariat to assess the progress of projects that they contribute to in funding (see Annex III). As this was the first PIR completed by the project and was a new and complex process for partners, she explained that the PIR consists of sections on meeting objectives, the status of implementation of activities, risks, funding and co-financing and progress against the Focal Area. Partners and the project manager discuss and provide ratings and the task manager reviews these to ensure that there is a harmonised approach taken by all projects and across the other focal areas. She recommended that it is better to be conservative when allocating ratings and not be too optimistic, especially in the first year of implementation. Ms West informed participants that the project was overall rated as Moderately Satisfactory (MS), which shows a solid performance with some work still to be done.

8. Mr Trumbic noted that, given all the problems such a large a complex project faces, the resulting rating was good. In his presentation he summarised the ratings by component. Partners showing below average performance have to make efforts to identify obstacles and propose measures to remove them, preferably before the end of 2010 and the PMU will provide assistance to partners who need it. Before next Steering Committee meeting in March 2011 all necessary measures to catch up for the lost time will have to be put in place, so that required revisions of the work-plan can be adopted. He stressed that the Coordination Group meeting has to be the major step forward, and a chance to induce necessary changes, whilst concluding that the objective in the near future is to get all the partners at, more or less, equal footing of implementation.

Report by the MedPartnership's partners

9. Mr. Jose Luis Martin-Bordes, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, International Hydrological Programme (UNESCO/IHP) Project Coordinator for the activities under Sub-Component 1.1 Management of Coastal Aquifer and Groundwater introduced himself to participants, having met many for the first time and stressed that this is the first time a GEF project on Large Marine Ecosystems is bringing together groundwater and aquifers, surface water and coastal management in an integrated manner. Coastal aquifers are under stress in the Mediterranean from excessive exploitation, saltwater intrusion and pollution, and the objective of activities is to reverse the trends in over-extraction and degradation in the quality of coastal aquifers. This will be achieved through policy interactions for providing appropriate capacity and technology for groundwater management and to fill in knowledge gaps, whilst demonstrating best-practices. He informed participants that thanks to the co-financing, in particular from the Ministry of Environment of Italy, activities have been implemented since 2008, and overall are all well on track. Given the limited information available on groundwater resources in general, a number of activities involve the assessment of the vulnerabilities to aquifers¹, including the assessment of risks and vulnerabilities in all participating countries. Until now, the vulnerability studies are being conducted in the Ghar El Melh area of Tunisia, the Bou

¹ Activity 1.1.1 of the regional Component of the MedPartnership

Areg plain and the Lagoon of Nador of Morocco and the Novljanska Zrnovnica and Pula areas of Croatia. In order to enhance regional management of coastal aquifers² activities under implementation include the coastal aquifer and groundwater intergration into ICZM plans for Buna/Bojana coastal area in Albania and Montenegro; and the Réghaïa Coastal Area, Algeria. Also included is a demonstration for the Gabes oases coastal aquifer and land management in Tunisia and several region-wide activities including the implementation of eco-hydrogeology applications for management and protection of coastal wetlands with a case study in the Tetuan area in Morocco, and coastal aquifer supplement to SAP-MED, SAP-BIO and NAPs. Mr. Martin-Bordes informed participants that the activities related to legal, institutional and policy reform for coastal aquifer management³ and spatial technology application cross cutting activity⁴ are still at an early stage of implementation. UNESCO-IHP will propose supplements to the ICZM Protocol of the Barcelona Convention regarding coastal aquifers management. This is important as currently there almost no legal frameworks in place for the management of aquifers. Mr. Martin-Bordes concluded that the UNESCO-IHPs activities under the Regional Component of the MedPartnership were well on track to achieving their objectives, and also recommended that the indicators used in the PIR, whilst overall good and valid, could still be reviewed and strengthened prior to the next Steering Committee meeting.

10. Mr. Marko Prem, Director a.i. of UNEP/MAPs Priority Actions Programme Regional Activity Centre (PAP/RAC) presented the status of activities under Sub-Component 1.2 Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) of the Regional Component of the MedPartnership. The basis of these actions is to provide support to the implementation of the ICZM Protocol of the Barcelona Convention and as such he informed participants the good news that currently five countries have signed the Protocol, and with one more signature, it will enter into force. Actions undertaken towards the preparation of national ICZM strategies and NAPs⁵ include the development of two national ICZM Strategies, in Albania and Algeria where the preparation of an outline document is currently underway. Also the analysis of the impacts of ratification of the ICZM Protocol on national legislation in Croatia is almost completed with the preparatory meeting for the Regional Workshop to be organized. It was agreed that special focus should be given to the integration of coastal zone, water and aquifer management within the project, and therefore it was proposed and agreed to develop joint methodology - an Integrative Methodological Framework (IMF), which is under development. It also includes the issue of climate change and will be applied to the joint demonstration sites agreed. The application of the ICZM approach⁶ is undertaken in two demonstration areas: the Buna/Bojana coastal area in Albania and Montenegro (in joint coordination with UNESCO-IHP and GWP-Med) and the Réghaïa Coastal Area of Algeria (in conjunction with UNESCO-IHP). National teams for both demonstrations have been established, activities agreed and the ICZM plans will be drafted during 2011. These outputs, in particular ICZM Plans and National ICZM Strategies will be good case studies for the ICZM Protocol and for replication and knowledge sharing in other countries.

11. Mr. Vangelis Constantianos, Executive Secretary of the Global Water Partnership-Mediterranean (GWP-Med) gave a brief report of activities to date under Sub-Component 1.3 Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM). He informed participants that the regional water resource management plan⁷ original planned in 2006, was now subsumed by the larger formal process for the development of the new Strategy for Water in the Mediterranean (SWM) which began at the end of 2008 in the framework of the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM).

² Activity 1.1.2 of the regional Component of the MedPartnership

³ Activity 1.1.3 of the regional Component of the MedPartnership

⁴ Activity 1.1.4 of the regional Component of the MedPartnership

⁵ Activity 1.2.1 of the regional Component of the MedPartnership

⁶ Activity 1.2.2 of the regional Component of the MedPartnership

⁷ Activity 1.3.1 of the regional Component of the MedPartnership

GWP-Med, also within its capacity as Secretariat of the Mediterranean Component of the EU Water Initiative (MED EUWI), as partner to this process will continue to report to the MedPartnership, but would not use project resources for this activity as it is already separately fully funded. The SWM although drafted through an intensive technical / political process (September 2009 to March 2010) was not adopted at the UfM Ministerial meeting in Barcelona in April 2010, due to exclusively political reasons but hopefully would be adopted at the UfM Head of States Summit in November 2010. Several actions were carried out at the national level to catalyze action and build capacity for national IWRM planning⁸. These include contribution to the national IWRM planning in Lebanon, with specific focus on advancing the new National Water Strategy as well as assessing conditions, gaps and opportunities for private sector participation (PSP). In Egypt the 'Sustainable Financing Strategy for WSS' and 'Household Affordability Assessment' for Greater Cairo was completed with multi-stakeholder consultation and submitted to the Egyptian Holding Company for Water and Wastewater; along with a policy assessment on the potential for PSP in the water sector. In Tunisia and Palestine, activities are just starting towards enhancing capacity for IWRM planning and analysis and development of reforms for enhanced water governance. As previously presented by UNESCO-IHP and PAP/RAC, Mr. Constantianos stressed the importance of GWP-Med's involvement in the Integrated Methodological Framework (IMF), the four joint meetings conducted in 2010 and the joint demonstration of the Buna/Bojana. Two Integrated River Basin Management plans are to be completed: in the Buna/Bojana area (in line with the Drin Dialogue⁹), and discussions are underway for a second river in the eastern Mediterranean, either the Orontes in Lebanon, or the Al-Kabir in Lebanon and Syria.

12. In the discussion that followed Ms. West requested a little more information on the status of the Strategy for Water in the Mediterranean, to which Mr. Constantianos clarified the two political points that had prevented the adoption of the strategy, one of which was related to the mention or not of 'occupied territories' and the other related to the mention or not of the UN Convention on transboundary water courses. Ms. Alessandra Sensi from the European Commission also mentioned that these issues were under resolution and the strategy was expected to be adopted next month.

13. Mr. Fouad Abousamra, MEDPOL Programme Officer presented the activities under Sub-Component 2.1. Facilitation of policy and legislation reforms for pollution control, with several national pilot projects based on priorities identified in the National Action Plans (NAPs). The pilot for phosphogypsum slurry management¹⁰, originally proposed for Lebanon had been delayed due to the pending confirmation from Lebanon, who have recently decided that they do not wish to participate in this activity. Contacts are now well advanced with Tunisia to host this demonstration project. At the end of the meeting, MEDPOL received a note from Tunisia which

⁸ Activity 1.3.2 of the regional Component of the MedPartnership

⁹ The **Drin Dialogue** is a coordinated and structured consultation process among the Ministries of the extended Drin Basin riparians (Albania, former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Greece, Kosovo (UN administered territory under UN Security Council resolution 1244), Montenegro) with competence on water resources management, the existing formal and informal joint Commissions/Committees in the sub-basins (Prespa Park Management Committee, Lake Ohrid Watershed Committee, Lake Skadar-Shkoder Commission) and key Basin stakeholders. UNECE and GWP-Med coordinate the Dialogue; activities are financed by the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency. The **aim** is to develop a Shared Vision for the sustainable management of the Drin Basin and to explore ways towards enhancing transboundary cooperation in this regard, in compliance with the provisions of the UNECE Water Convention, the EU Water Framework Directive and other related multi-lateral Agreements. The Dialogue is conducted within the frameworks of the UNECE Water Convention and the Petersberg Phase II / Athens Declaration Process. Activities implemented and to be developed in support of the Drin Dialogue contribute directly to and/or are part of the works of the Mediterranean Component of the EU Water Initiative and of the GEF Strategic Partnership of the Mediterranean Large Marine Ecosystems.

¹⁰ Activity 2.1.1 of the regional Component of the MedPartnership

confirm its readiness to implement the pilot project on phosphogypsum. The pilot projects for chromium and BOD control of tannery effluents in Turkey¹¹, lubricating oil recycling and regeneration in Algeria¹², and lead batteries recycling in Syria¹³ are all in good track and at the level of phase I of their implementation which consists of the preparation of assessments for policy and/or technological reforms. Two regional activities are planned for the development of policies for pollution control, again based on priorities identified in the NAPs. These are the assessment of magnitude of riverine inputs of nutrients into the Mediterranean Sea¹⁴, and the setting of emission limit values (ELVs) in industrial effluents and environmental quality standards (EQS)¹⁵ both, due to administrative procedures, are behind schedule and are due to start implementation towards the end of 2010. Finally MEDPOL is also executing activities to the legislative and institutional framework regarding pollution inspectorate systems¹⁶ in Montenegro, Croatia, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Lebanon, Morocco, Syria and Turkey. So far, a preparatory meeting for capacity building needs and legislation reforms in Montenegro has been undertaken, with plans for further meeting in Croatia underway.

14. MEDPOL is also executing activities under sub-component 2.3 for the environmentally sound management (ESM) of equipment, stocks and waste containing or contaminated by Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) in national electricity companies in Albania, Syria, Lebanon, Egypt and Libya with the aim of disposing 870 tons of PCBs at demonstration sites, as well as providing support and training for policy and legislative reforms concerning PCBs. So far national stakeholder meetings have been successfully conducted in Albania, Syria, Libya and Egypt and experts started visiting the countries to effectively implement the plan of work which consists of the assessment of the “state of the art”, review and complement inventories, preparation of temporary storage site for the waste to be disposed and provide training to national teams. however, Mr. Abousamra noted that Lebanon has now indicated they do not want to participate in the project, as they will receive funding through a World Bank proposal for PCBs. Ms. Vanessa Rodriguez Gomez, CP/RAC Project Manager of UNEP/MAPs Regional Activity Center for Cleaner Production (CP/RAC), presented the complimentary activities to MEDPOL for improved awareness and technical capacity for the environmentally sound management of PCB's (sub-component 2.3), which are at an early phase of implementation.

15. In the discussion that followed Ms West requested more information as to why Lebanon is not participating in two of the activities planned, and when Tunisia would confirm their participation in the pilot for phosphogypsum slurry management¹⁷. This was followed by several participants commenting on the changes within the Ministry of Environment of Lebanon which has resulted in some re-focusing of their priorities in terms of participation in projects. Mr. Sergio Margulis, WB responsible for the “Sustainable Med” programme, requested more information from MEDPOL on past discussions with the World Bank regarding this PCB project so that he could follow up on his side, and ensure coordination between the WB and UNEP on PCB disposal in the region. Ms. Virginie Hart, UNEP/MAP PMU, noted the importance of the NAPs which had been used as a basis for not just the activities within the MedPartnership, but had also been used by the EC in the selection of priority investments as part of the “Mediterranean Hot Spot Investment Programme” (MeHSIP), one of the projects within the Horizon 2020 Initiative. Ms. Hart therefore recommended that the revision of the NAPs be also highlighted in

¹¹ Activity 2.1.2 of the regional Component of the MedPartnership

¹² Activity 2.1.3 of the regional Component of the MedPartnership

¹³ Activity 2.1.4 of the regional Component of the MedPartnership

¹⁴ Activity 2.1.5 of the regional Component of the MedPartnership

¹⁵ Activity 2.1.6 of the regional Component of the MedPartnership

¹⁶ Activities 2.1.7 to 2.1.9 of the regional Component of the MedPartnership

¹⁷ It should be noted that in the preparation of this report, Tunisia confirmed their participation in pilot for phosphogypsum slurry management.

the MedPartnership, to ensure broad dissemination and for consideration in future actions and replication of activities.

16. Ms. Roberta De Palma, the Chief Technical Advisor for the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO) and responsible for the activities under sub-component 2.2 Transfer of Environmentally Sound Technology (TEST-MED) of the regional component of the MedPartnership in Tunisia, Morocco and Egypt, informed participants that the project began implementation in the last quarter of 2008, and phase 1 has already been completed. Activities completed include: the selection of national contractors, establishment of national advisory boards, capacity building workshops on TEST methodology, the generation of information material and the project's website¹⁸. Technical site reviews of 75 industries have been conducted and 43 demonstration industrial sites selected. As such contracts have been signed with each demonstration sites, including 154,320 USD of co-financing secured from the private sector. Phase II began in April 2010 which includes the implementation of a Cleaner Production Assessment (CPA) at demonstration sites. Ms. De Palma presented the types of industries selected in each country, noting that overall the majority of industries were from the food and beverage sector, followed by the textile and chemical sectors. Using Tunisia as example she noted the 15 companies which have been selected undertook a CP/EST audit in the food sector that show potential water savings between 22 and 66 percent and BOD reduction of up to 35 percent. Expected results by the end of 2011 and early 2012 include an increase of water productivity of 40 percent in at least 40 percent of demo companies and approximately thirty percent reduction in pollution loads in at least 50 percent of the demonstration companies, amongst others. Ms. De Palma concluded by stressing the benefits and high potential for replicability of implementing EST in industries.

17. Ms. Alessandra Pomè, Project Manager of the World Wide Fund for nature, Mediterranean Programme Office (WWF-MedPO), reminded participants that Component 3 of the MedPartnership for the conservation of biological diversity, consists of two complimentary sub-components. WWF-MedPO and the Regional Activity Center for Specially Protected Areas (SPA/RAC) are responsible for the sub-component 3.1 for the improved management and creation of new marine protected areas (MPAs)¹⁹ and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) is implementing sub-component 3.2 for promoting the Sustainable Use of fisheries resources in the Mediterranean through the application of the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries²⁰. WWF-MedPO's activities, also named "MedPAN South Project" began in 2009 and were launched together with SPA/RAC in Istanbul in May 2010. The communication activities are now well underway, with a communication strategy finalised, a web-site²¹, fact sheet and preparations for a video. All five national demonstrations are under implementation. The demonstration in Libya on the identification of new marine sites to be protected²² is jointly implemented with SPA/RAC and presented below. The demonstration project in Croatia to establish management, monitoring and evaluation and business plans for existing MPAs²³ has completed the baselines studies for each site and the management plans are under development, supported by a series of training and thematic workshops. In Tunisia, activities to establish a management unit of Cap Negro-Cap Serrat MPA²⁴ (including a business plan and

¹⁸ <http://www.unido.org/index.php?id=7477>

¹⁹ Sub-Component 3.1 Conservation of Coastal and Marine Diversity through Development of a Mediterranean MPA Network, executed by SPA/RAC and WWF-MedPO

²⁰ Sub-Component 3.2 Promotion of the sustainable use of fisheries resources in the Mediterranean through ecosystem – based management approaches, executed by FAO

²¹ MedPAN South web-site (www.panda.org/msp)

²² Activity 3.1.2.7 of the regional Component of the MedPartnership

²³ Activity 3.1.3.7 of the regional Component of the MedPartnership

²⁴ Activity 3.1.4.2 of the regional Component of the MedPartnership

financial mechanisms), are underway with a first draft of the business plan under review; an MPA management team in place; a steering committee set up; a conference on “Marine and Coastal Protected area: A tool for biodiversity conservation” organized with APAL in June 2010; and a seminar of one week for local student on marine ecology (“Semaine de la mer”) organized in July 2010. The demonstration projects for the development of the management plan of the Kas-Kekova specially protected area (SPA) in Turkey²⁵ and the Taza National Park in Algeria²⁶ are both under implementation with baseline studies finalised, consultations and communication and outreach activities ongoing. Ms. Pome concluded with a brief summary of the regional activities undertaken, which include the first two regional training workshops organized on MPA management planning and planning for sustainable fisheries in MPAs conducted in Tunisia and Turkey in November 2009 and October 2010 respectively. In the framework of the Implementation Programme that followed last year’s regional training workshop, 19 Implementation Agreements (contracts) were implemented, including one training workshop on Sustainable financing for MPAs for EPASA officials in Turkey, 2 exchanges visits to Ras Mohamed MPA in Egypt and the Bouche de Bonifacio MPA for a total of 12 people from Lebanon, Albania and Algeria, 6 small grants awarded to participants from Tunisia, Lebanon and Egypt and 2 training workshops planned in Algeria and Libya.

18. Ms. Sensi requested more information on the small grants activities mentioned within the context of the first regional training workshop and implementation agreements, to which Ms Pome responded that as part of the training of MPA managers, participants identify tools of interest, develop projects and then if appropriate small grants (of between 3,000 and 5,000 euros) or technical assistance are provided for these activities to be implemented in their countries. Ms. Pome also informed participants that the role of FAO in the MPA activities had been so far limited, due to FAO’s delayed start in the project, but however for the second workshop on fisheries, FAO would have a much more active role.

19. Mr. Atef Limam and Ms. Souha El Asmi, from the Regional Activity Center for Specially Protected Areas (SPA/RAC), presented activities that compliment WWF-MedPO’s actions under sub-Component 3.1 Conservation of Coastal and Marine Diversity through Development of a Mediterranean MPA Network, with specific focus on the identification and creation of new MPAs, also called “MedMPAnet Project”. With some delay the project office has been established, the activities were launched formally at the SAP-BIO National Correspondents meeting²⁷ in Istanbul on the 2 June 2010. A number of preliminary activities and meetings in participating countries have been undertaken to establish the priority activities needed to create MPAs in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Lebanon, Libya, Montenegro and Syria²⁸. The development of new MPAs²⁹ is underway in Albania, Croatia, Montenegro and Tunisia. In Tunisia, a field survey has been conducted in the Kuriat Islands in June 2010, in order to further survey the main habitats and species and to adjust the proposed zoning plan of the marine area of the Kuriat Islands. It was conducted along with on-job training for local experts on conservation aspects in MPAs³⁰. For Albania, Croatia and Montenegro, coordination meetings are to be held in all three countries by the end of 2010 and beginning of 2011. For Libya³¹, a joint demonstration project with WWF-MedPO to initiate a national network of MPAs in Libya is underway, with an overall objective of identification of new marine sites to be protected, and the first survey of main habitats and species, along with on-job training for local experts and a socioeconomic survey was conducted

²⁵ Activity 3.1.3.5 of the regional Component of the MedPartnership

²⁶ Activity 3.1.3.6 of the regional Component of the MedPartnership

²⁷ Activity 3.1.1.2 of the regional Component of the MedPartnership

²⁸ Activity 3.1.2.1 of the regional Component of the MedPartnership

²⁹ Activity 3.1.2.4 of the regional Component of the MedPartnership

³⁰ Activity 3.1.3.4 of the regional Component of the MedPartnership

³¹ Activity 3.1.2.7 of the regional Component of the MedPartnership

in September 2010. In terms of training activities³², jointly executed with WWF-MedPO, the first regional workshop on management planning for MPAs was held in Tabarka, Tunisia, in November 2009 and the second regional training workshop on planning for sustainable fisheries in MPAs was held in Kas, Turkey in October 2010. Furthermore, preparation of communication tools are now underway, with a web-page³³ of the MedMPAnet Project established under the RAC/SPA web site and preparation of video in partnership with the national authorities in Libya, and later on in Tunisia. It was concluded that the majority of activities are scheduled for the end of 2010 and 2011 and will be reported in the next PIR.

20. Ms. Sensi commented on the delays and the need to resolve the financial issue given that funds from the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID) have yet to be dispersed to SPA/RAC due to the delay in signature of the legal agreement between AECID and UNEP. Ms. Hart informed participants that the agreement was currently with the Executive Director of UNEP for signature and therefore no further delays were expected in this regard.

21. Mr. Pedro de Barros, Fishery Resources Officer for the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and responsible for the coordination of activities under Sub-Component 3.2 for the promotion of the sustainable use of fisheries resources in the Mediterranean through the application of the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries gave a brief summary of the activities planned and presented the status of activities so far. Overall the activities have only recently begun due to administrative delays. However Mr. de Barros was confident that the activities, which complement closely the work undertaken in FAO's sub-regional projects on the ecosystem approach to fisheries³⁴ would not be further delayed. Preliminary activities are underway for the application of the Ecosystem approach to fisheries management at regional and sub-regional levels³⁵ in Croatia, Montenegro, Tunisia, Turkey, with the appointment of national contacts and agreement on the first workshop for the training of trainers to be undertaken in Rome in December 2010. Demonstrations are planned for the reduction of bycatch of regionally important species at a fleet level in Morocco and Tunisia³⁶. The MPA of Al Hoceima, Morocco has been identified for the demonstration and a field trip to Tunisia has been scheduled for November 2010. Finally in order to support fishermen's participation in monitoring and management of coastal MPA's, again the demonstration area of Al Hoceima, Morocco has been identified, and the first meeting with partners was undertaken in September 2010. Mr de Barros presented the indicators agreed in the PIR and overall commented that they are still valid with some minor suggestions which will be incorporated into the Annual Report for submission to the Steering Committee by the end of 2010.

22. Ms. Hart presented the status of activities undertaken by the UNEP/MAP PMU as part of sub-component 4.1 Project Co-ordination, Management and M&E, using the indicators of the PIR as a basis. All activities planned have so far been successfully completed. The PMU was established in 2009, and all legal agreements were signed with partners and donors and initial funds dispersed, with the exception of INFO/RAC which is still pending. The MedPartnership Coordination Group (CG) was established, which is meeting now for the second time, and

³² Activity 3.1.3.1 of the regional Component of the MedPartnership

³³ <http://www.rac-spa.org/site2/node/595>

³⁴ FAOs sub-regional projects include: AdriaMed: Scientific Cooperation to Support Responsible Fisheries in the Adriatic Sea; CopeMed: Cooperation Networks to facilitate Coordination to Support Fisheries Management in the Western and Central Mediterranean; EastMed: FAO Regional Project in Eastern Mediterranean; MedsudMed: Assessment and Monitoring of the Fishery Resources and Ecosystems in the Strait of Sicily.

³⁵ Activity 3.2.1 of the regional Component of the MedPartnership

³⁶ Activity 3.2.2 of the regional Component of the MedPartnership

several smaller scale coordination meetings were also held in particular with the World Bank to agree on specific coordination issues. The MedPartnership Project Steering Committee (SC) was established and the first meeting of the Steering Committee was successfully conducted in Montenegro in February 2010. Countries reaffirmed their commitment to the partnership, made several recommendations that are being implemented, commended the Inception Report of the MedPartnership and adopted the detailed work-plan and budget. In terms of ensuring effective national inter-ministry coordination, initial discussions have been undertaken with national focal points and terms of reference were currently under development to provide support to National Focal Points for inter-ministerial coordination of the MedPartnership. During the initial design of the project document for the regional component of the MedPartnership, it was envisaged to establish a framework within UNEP/MAP for the long term management of the Mediterranean Large Marine Ecosystem. This has a broader scope than just the MedPartnership and is related to the need for coordination within the region between organisations working in the Mediterranean marine and coastal environment. UNEP/MAP has been coordinating closely with in particular the EC to ensure greater complementarity of activities and projects, which include joint collaboration on the EC Horizon 2020 for the de-pollution of the Mediterranean. Finally, not related to the indicators of the project, Ms. Hart noted that in terms of adaptive management, the Inception Phase of the regional component of the MedPartnership completed in 2009, successfully revised project activities and the monitoring framework to better reflect the changed context since the project was developed in 2006. She also added that additional GEF funding for a complementary project which will assist in incorporating climate variability into the ICZM and also the IWRM process in Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Egypt, Libya, Morocco, Montenegro, Syria, Tunisia and the Palestinian Authority was successfully developed and secured. The project is currently in its preparation phase and the final project document will be submitted to GEF in June or July of 2011.

23. Ms. Thomais Vlachogianni, of the Mediterranean Information Office for Environment, Culture and Sustainable Development (MIO-ECSDE), presented the activities to enhance the involvement of non-governmental and community based organisations in the region (NGOs and CBOs)³⁷. The NGO Involvement Plan has been revised and now provides guidelines to the partners of the project for effective NGO involvement in their activities. The main tools to be used include the table with the “Proposed NGO roles in the implementation of the Partner’s activities” (based on the current work plan); the NGO Involvement Questionnaire; the on-line database of Mediterranean environmental NGOs and the check-list for preparing effective public participation/consultation process. The online database is already available on the MIO-ECSDE web-site, will be finalized by the end of the year according to the work-plan³⁸ and will be posted on the MedPartnership web-site, once it is fully operational. It is necessary for each project partner to monitor its NGO involvement in activities, and for this purpose MIO-ECSDE has provided a template so that at the end of each year a brief qualitative analysis will be conducted on how effective NGO involvement has been, based on the individual NGO Involvement Schemes. Ms. Vlachogianni reminded participants that partners inputs were required in order to successful implement and track the NGO Involvement plan.

24. Mr Sergio Margulis, the World Bank introduced himself to participants, having recently moved to Marseille to lead the “Sustainable Med” Programme. He presented the Investment projects under the World Bank Investment Fund Component, including the new projects under “Sustainable Med”, further detailed in Annex IV. These include the Neretva and Trebisnjica Management Project (Bosnia-Herzegovina and Croatia), the Coastal Cities Pollution Control project and the Alexandria Coastal Zone Management Project (Egypt) which were all originally

³⁷ Activity 4.1.10 of the regional Component of the MedPartnership

³⁸ <http://www.mio-ecsde.org/ngos/index.asp>

funded under the Investment Fund and are now all under implementation. The remaining projects are still in various stages of preparation which include the Greater Tunis Treated Wastewater Discharge project in Tunisia, Enhanced Water Resources Management in Egypt, Integrated Coastal Zone Management for Lake Nador in Morocco, Coastal Rivers and Orontes River Basins Water Resources Management Project in Syria and Integrated Coastal Zone Management for Conservation and Economic Development in Libya. Regional projects include the Regional Coordination on Natural Resources Management and Capacity Building (in cooperation with NASA)³⁹, the Sustainable MED Governance and Knowledge Generation, the Regional Technical Assistance and Capacity Building for the Promotion of Treated Wastewater Reuse, the Western Mediterranean Marine Highway Development and Coastal Marine Contamination project and finally the UNEP executed Integration of Climatic Variability and Change into National Strategies to implement the ICZM Protocol in the Mediterranean project.

25. In the discussion that followed, Ms Sensi expressed concern that Sustainable MED Governance and Knowledge Generation project should not propose the establishment of a new Governance structure for the marine and coastal environment in the Mediterranean because that would be in duplication of the role and mandate of UNEP/MAP as coordinating unit for the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols. Mr. Margulis assured that the project had been altered, to exclude any such activities, and would be more focused on supporting the Marseille center in its activities. He added that the wording governance refers to the internal governance of Sustainable MED, and not to governance in the Mediterranean Region. Mr Trumbic advised that the projects should clearly be linked to priorities from the Strategic Action Plan for the Mediterranean and also to the 101 identified hotspots, as this was one of the overall objectives of the MedPartnership, which is to improve the environmental conditions at the hotspots. This should be clearly presented for each Investment Fund project. Mr Trumbic and Ms West also asked for further information on the governance and knowledge project as it had been agreed that UNEP/MAP was co-executing agency on this project, and proposed that this issue be discussed in greater detail in a side meeting that day.

Communication Strategy: Current status, organizational issues, next activities

26. Mr. Claudio Maricchiolo, ISPRA presented the Communication activities of the MedPartnership which he noted were still at a preliminary phase due to the legal controversy in the transition from the previous Regional Activity Center which had resulted in the delay in the signature of the legal agreement for the project and a budget freeze of co-financing from the Italian Ministry of Environment. Without funds ISPRA has had difficulties in performing money-intensive activities (service contract procurement, events, travels) and in pushing activities and acting proactively. However solutions to resolve this situation in the short-term were underway, and in the mean time Mr. Maricchiolo and Mr. Cristian Di Stefano focused their presentation on the MedPartnership web-site and collaboration portal.

27. In the discussion that followed several participants stressed that the web-site was just one part of the broader Communication Strategy, and therefore the web-site will not guarantee communication with all stakeholders. It was agreed that a detailed Communication Strategy was needed, to be presented at the next Steering Committee meeting. Guidance should be provided to all partners for the harmonisation of their web-sites, brochures, use of logo's etc. Participants recommended that the Mediterranean countries need to be first and foremost fully informed as many, although aware of activities undertaken through partners, are not aware of the broader MedPartnership and its scope. It was agreed that this is of critical importance and therefore as well as the development of a detailed Communication Strategy and plan of communication

³⁹ To be implemented in Egypt, Syria, Jordan)

activities, a side event should be held during the next Steering Committee meeting in March 2011. It was also recommended and agreed that key products, including the web-site should be in Arabic as well as English and French, and Mr Gilles Pipien of the World Bank suggested that Arabic experts are mobilized for the communication of the MedPartnership, and this could be done in partnership with the World Bank Marseille center for Sustainable development. Regarding the collaboration portal, whilst it was commended as a useful tool to serve the targeted e-based communication activities of the MedPartnership, many partners are not familiar with these technologies and therefore INFO/RAC and UNEP/MAP should be in close cooperation with the IT focal points of the MedPartnership, and it was suggested that the current structure of the MedPartnership's webpage should be revised in order to serve the partner's/project's needs to communicate their activities.

Agenda item 5: Replication Strategy: Current status, organizational issues, next activities

28. Mr Merla, WB Advisor gave an overview of the aim and vision of the Replication Strategy. It is expected that, as one of its main outcomes, the MedPartnership will catalyze the replication of the stress reduction practices (technologies, infrastructure, behaviors, approaches, policies, laws, organizational setups) being demonstrated and successfully tested by the investment projects or through the pilots. This will be done through the gathering of experience within the Partnership and possibly including other past good case studies, and during the life span of the project, promote their replication throughout the region, through a combination of targeted communication activities, assistance to national institutions and other activities. Mr. Merla gave a good example of pilot experimental farming technique used in the Black Sea region which due to its success was expanded throughout the whole country. Broadly speaking UNEP/MAP will be responsible for the overall coordination of replication activities and the design and implementation of the regional replication strategy and the World Bank will be responsible for the design and implementation of national replication strategies, along with various interactions with the regional strategy. More specifically the role of World Bank will be to collaborate with UNEP/MAP on the overall portfolio assessment, and in the identification of replicable practices; ensuring that each Investment project has a national replication strategy included and implemented, and to provide UNEP/MAP periodic updates on the status of project implementation. He concluded with a more detailed description of the activities in two Investment projects under implementation, the Neretva and Trebisnjica Management Project and the Coastal Cities Pollution Control project. Arthur Pascale, ISpra followed with a brief presentation on the draft replication strategy under development. All participants were informed that the first step of the replication strategy, that is the assessment of potentially replicable practices would be conducted in the coming months for presentation at the 2011 Steering Committee meeting.

29. In the discussion that followed participants expressed their support to the overall aim of the replication strategy and it was requested that some consideration be made to including enabling activities specific to each project to assist countries at the start of replication. This could include project preparation or other types of enabling activities that might be requested. It was also stressed that the strategy should involve countries from the onset so as to ensure that replicable practices are also identified that are in line with countries needs and potential funding.

Agenda item 6: The 2010 Annual Report

30. Ms. Hart presented the process and guidelines for the completion of the 2010 Annual report. She recommended that this be used as an opportunity to present results across the whole partnership in a more thematic manner, such as policy legislation reforms adopted, regional plans prepared, assessments, rather than by sub-component with some particular attention to the status of demonstration project/pilot project implementation. This would in turn

lead to also a more thematic approach in presentations at the Steering Committee meeting to be held in March 2011, with a focus on results, innovative approaches, and potential impact and replicability. Ms Hart noted that there are other complementary documents that would also need to be shared with the Project Steering Committee which include the NGO Involvement Plan, final Communication & Replication Strategies, and the national fact-sheets of MedPartnership activities, regional brochures on partner's activities and other documents to be agreed.

Agenda item 7: Second Steering Committee Meeting: Issues, agenda, time and venue, documents

31. Mr. Ivica Trumbic informed participants that the next Steering Committee meeting is proposed for the first week of March 2011, and in the previous February 2010 Steering Committee meeting Syria kindly offered to host the next years meeting in Damascus.

32. Mr Trumbic invited participants to present their views on possible subjects/themes that could be discussed in Damascus, in addition to the standard agenda items. The following potential subjects were proposed: transboundary plans as examples of interagency cooperation; high profile individuals participating in popular events to raise visibility of the MedPartnership; make SC meeting a communications event highlighting project's achievements; link with H2020; present IW6; and emphasise activities going on at the country level; present Replication Portfolio Assessment. As a general remark, it was suggested that the meeting participants be technically engaged, meaning that a specific subject be brought up for discussion.

Agenda item 8: Plan of activities for 2011

33. It was agreed that rather than a detailed presentation from all partners regarding the plan of activities for 2011, this agenda item would be used as an opportunity for all partners to provide their thoughts and priorities for the next Steering Committee meeting and which activities would be showcased. Ms. West informed all participants that from her experience in many Steering Committee meeting, the most successful meetings were those that fully engaged the Steering Committee on technical issues. It was agreed that the several of the demonstrations should be showcased, in particular the joint demonstration combining coastal zone management with aquifer and water resource management, the TEST-Med demonstrations which are well advanced and demonstrations on Marine Protected Areas. This approach of showcasing activities and demonstrations would then lead to a discussion with all Steering Committee members on the "good practices" for replication as part of the replication assessment, and as such would provide an opportunity for countries to provide guidance on which "good practices" they would see as useful to be replicated at the national level, and to bring in their experience from other national projects. Some partners noted that they have already received requests for assistance to replicate activities such as from Turkey to replicate TEST-Med.

34. In addition the issue of visibility of the MedPartnership was discussed, and it was strongly recommended that a side event be arranged in conjunction with the Steering Committee, with case-studies, and strong lectures or speeches from leading environmental experts. It was agreed that MIO-ESCDE and the World Bank advisor for communication would make some suggestions for this event.

Agenda item 9: Budgetary issues

35. Mr. Giorgos Petridis, UNEP/MAP-MedPartnership Administrative Assistant delivered a presentation on Budgetary and Financial Issues of the MedPartnership. Mr. Petridis started the presentation by making some observations following the first year of project implementation. The

major issues presented were the Financial Reporting and the need to keep the consistency when recording expenditures with the approved Annual Budget. Meeting deadlines in administrative submissions was another item which was raised and partners were requested to follow up closer on submissions. General information on reporting templates was also provided. The process for cash advance request was once more presented giving emphasis on the transition time between the time the request is submitted and the actual funds disbursed. Partners were requested to plan ahead thus ensuring activity continuation, not allowing idle time until the new funds arrive. Finally, a presentation was made on the second budget revision template in view of the forthcoming budget revision exercise and 2nd Steering Committee Meeting. A reminder on the process was presented and the new deadlines for administrative submissions were announced.

Agenda item 10: 6th GEF International Waters Conference in 2011

36. Mr. Trumbic informed the participants of the Sixth GEF International Waters Conference that will take place in the Mediterranean in the second half of 2011. It is a regular event taking place every two years in a different region of the world. The last one took place in Cairns, Australia in October 2009. During the conference the decision was taken that the next conference will take place in the Mediterranean Region. The conference is organized by IWLEARN and the UNDP office in Bratislava with the help of regional partners, in this case UNEP MAP and GWP Med. These conferences are normally attended by 300-400 participants from all over the world. They largely represent projects that are financed by GEF IW, but also the IFIs, governments, NGOs and other UN and international organizations and agencies. The conference is preceded by two days of subject-specific workshops, attended by large number of participants, while the conference itself lasts up to 5 days and is divided into thematic sessions. One day of the conference is devoted to the field trip. The date of the next conference will be October or early November 2011, but care will be taken not to coincide with the next COP. It will be held either on a cruise ship or as a land based event. During the stop in Dubrovnik, or in Dubrovnik if it will be land based, a big event to celebrate 20 years of GEF will take place. It is expected that the event will be attended by higher level officials from GEF. The conference is a great opportunity for MAP and MedPartnership to present their achievements. MAP will be considered as an official host of the conference. There will be a Task Force/Steering Committee where Ms. Silva and Mr. Trumbic will be sitting. The conference is largely financed by the GEF IW-LEARN and the participants themselves, while some contribution is expected from MAP and from Croatia. The size of the contribution is still to be discussed. Closing his intervention, Mr Trumbic invited all involved in MedPartnership and Climate Variability project to actively participate at the conference.

Agenda item 11: Conclusions and recommendations, closure of the meeting

37. Closing the meeting, Mr Trumbic thanked all participants for their constructive contribution towards reaching meeting's objectives. The meeting was, first of all, an opportunity to inform each other on the activities performed, but also to expose gaps and problems and seek solutions from other partners in the project. The PIR, just recently completed, was highly instrumental in reaching these objectives. Mr Trumbic said that, overall, we could be satisfied with the rating given in PIR but that performance of the MedPartnership and some of its components will have to be improved in the next year. He expressed satisfaction with the enthusiasm shown by all participants as well as hope that it will be kept at such a level in the coming years. Finally, he thanked ISPRA for offering its facilities and assistance for the meeting.

ANNEX I

**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS
LISTE DES PARTICIPANTS**

**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS
LISTE DES PARTICIPANTS**

**UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT
PROGRAMME
COORDINATING UNIT FOR THE
MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN**

(UNEP/MAP)

Ms. Maria Luisa Silva Mejias

MAP Officer in Charge and Deputy Coordinator

Tel: (30) 210 7273126,

Fax: (30) 210 7253196/7

Email: maria.luisa.silva@unepmap.gr**Mr. Ivica Trumbic**

Project Manager

UNEP/MAP GEF Strategic Partnership for

The Mediterranean Sea Large Marine Ecosystem (PMU)

Tel: (30) 210 7273102,

Fax: (30) 210 7253196-7

Email: ivica.trumbic@unepmap.gr**Ms. Virginie Hart**

Marine and Coastal Expert,

UNEP/MAP GEF Strategic Partnership for

The Mediterranean Sea Large Marine Ecosystem (PMU)

Tel: (30) 210 7273122,

Fax: (30) 210 7253196-7

Email: virginie.hart@unepmap.gr**Mr. Giorgos Petridis**

Administrative Officer

UNEP/MAP GEF Strategic Partnership for

The Mediterranean Sea Large Marine Ecosystem (PMU)

Tel: (30) 210 7273125,

Fax: (30) 210 7253196-7

Email: giorgos.petridis@unepmap.gr**Mr Francesco Saverio Civili**

MED POL Coordinator

Tel: +30 210 72 73 106

E-mail: fscivili@unepmap.gr**Mr Fouad Abousamra**

MED POL Programme Officer

Tel: +30 210 72 73 116

E-mail: fouad@unepmap.gr

UNEP/MAP, 48, Vassileos Konstantinou Avenue,
11635 Athens Athens, Greece

WORLD BANK

Mr. Sergio Margulis
Smargulis@worldbank.org

Mr. Gilles Pipien
 Senior Environmental specialist, WB/MNSEN
gpien@worldbank.org

CMI Villa Valmer
 271, corniche Kennedy
 13007 Marseille (France)
 direct: 00 33 491 992 458 (or 56 or 51)

Mr. Andrea Merla
 Advisor, World Bank
 Email: merla.andrea@gmail.com

Ms. Amy Evans
 Advisor, World Bank
 Europe and Central Asia
 Email: Aevans1@worldbank.org

Ms. Beata PLONKA
 Consultant, World Bank
 Email: bplonka@worldbank.org

**UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL,
 SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL
 ORGANIZATION INTERNATIONAL
 HYDROLOGICAL PROGRAMME**

(UNESCO/IHP)

Mr. Jose Luis Martin Bordes
 Project Coordinator
 International Hydrological Programme (IHP)
 UNESCO - Division of Water Sciences
 1, rue Miollis - 75732 Paris Cedex 15, France
 Tel: +33 (0) 1 45 68 39 54
 Fax: +33 (0) 1 45 68 58 11

**UNITED NATIONS INDUSTRIAL
 DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION**

(UNIDO)

Ms. Roberta De Palma
 Chief Technical Advisor

Cell. (IT): +39 339 8547 882
 Email: roberta.depalma@exima.dk

Water Management Unit
 Environmental Management Branch Programme Development
 and Technical Cooperation

**REGIONAL ACTIVITY CENTRE FOR
SPECIALLY PROTECTED AREAS**

(RAC/SPA)

Mr. Abderrahmen Gannoun

Director

Email: gannoun.abderrahmen@rac-spa.org

Ms. Souha El Asmi

Marine Biology Expert

MedMPAnet Project Interim Officer

Email: souha.asmi@rac-spa.org

Mr. Atef Limam

Marine Biology Expert, Coordination and Technical Backstopping
Officer, MedMPAnet Project

Regional Activity Centre for

Specially Protected Areas (RAC/SPA)

B.P. 337 - 1080 Tunis Cedex. TUNISIA

Tel: + 216 71 947 162 / + 216 71 947 173

Fax: + 216 71 947 173

Email: atef.limam@rac-spa.org

**REGIONAL ACTIVITY CENTER FOR
PRIORITY ACTIONS PROGRAMME**

(PAP/RAC)

Mr. Marko Prem

Director a.i.

Email: marko.prem@ppa.t-com.hr

Kraj Sv. Ivana 11, P.O. Box 576, 21000 Split, Croatia

Tel: (385) 21 340 470, Fax: (385) 21 340490

**REGIONAL ACTIVITY CENTER FOR
CLEANER PRODUCTION
MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN -
UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT
PROGRAM**

**REGIONAL CENTRE UNDER THE
STOCKHOLM CONVENTION**

(CP/RAC)

Mr. Roger Garcia

Deputy Director

SCP Programme

Email: rgarcia@cprac.org

Ms. Vanessa Rodriguez

SCP Programme & GEF Project Manager

Email: vrodriquez@cprac.org

C/ Dr. Roux, 80 08017 Barcelona – Spain

Tel+34 93 553 8790 Fax. +34 93 553 87 95

**GLOBAL WATER PARTNERSHIP
MEDITERRANEAN**

(GWP-MED)

Mr. Vangelis Constantianos

Executive Secretary, (GWP-Med)

Email: vangelis@gwpmed.org

Mr. Dimitris Faloutsos

Programme Officer, (GWP-Med)

Email: dimitris@gwpmed.org

12 Kyrristou str.

105 56 Athens , Greece

T: +30210-3247490, -3247267

F: +30210-3317127

**WWF MEDPO
EUROPEAN POLICY PROGRAMME-
BRANCH OFFICE**

Ms. Alessandra Pome
Marine Biology Expert, MedPan Project Manager
Email: apome@wwfmedpo.org

Ms. Giovanna Agostinelli
Marine Unit Administrator
Email: gagostinelli@wwfmedpo.org
Via Pò, 25/c
00198 Rome, Italy
Tel: + 39 06 84497381
Fax: + 39 06 8413866

**REGIONAL ACTIVITY CENTRE FOR
INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION
(INFO/RAC)**

Mr. Claudio Maricchiolo
Head
Email: claudio.maricchiolo@isprambiente.it

Ms. Astrid Raudner
Email: astrid.raudner@isprambiente.it

Ms. Stefania Fusani
Email: stefania.fusani@isprambiente.it

Mr. Arthur Pasquale
Email: arthur.pasquale@isprambiente.it

INFO-RAC (ISPRA – Istituto Superiore per la Protezione e la Ricerca Ambientale) VIA VITALIANO BRANCATI, 48 00144 Rome Italy
Tel: 0039 06 5007 2177, Fax:0039 06 5007 2221

**MEDITERRANEAN INFORMATION
OFFICE FOR ENVIRONMENT, CULTURE
AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
(MIO-ECSDE)**

Ms. Anastasia Roniotes
Information Officer
Email: roniotes@mio-ecsde.org

Ms. Thomais Vlachogianni
Programme Officer
Email: vlachogianni@mio-ecsde.org

12, Kyrristou str, 105 56, Athens, Greece
Tel: +30210-3247490, -3247267
Fax: +30210-3317127

**FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
ORGANIZATION
(FAO)**

Mr. Pedro de Barros
Fishery Resources Officer

Tel: + 39 0657056469
Fax: +39 0657053020
Email: pedro.barros@fao.org

Fisheries Management and Conservation Service (FIMF)
Fisheries and Aquaculture Department
Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, 00147 Rome, Italy

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

(EC)

Ms. Alessandra Sensi

Program Manager

EuropeAid Co-operation Office, Unit A.3-Environment Centralised Operations for Europe, the Mediterranean and the Middle East

Email: Alessandra.SENSI@ec.europa.eu

Rue Joseph II, 54 - Bruxelles

Tel. + 32 2 29 86975

Fax. +32 2 29 55665

**UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT
PROGRAMME DIVISION OF GLOBAL
ENVIRONMENT FACILITY
COORDINATION**

(UNEP/DGEF)

Ms. Kelly West

Task Manager, International Waters

Email: kelly.west@unep.org

Tel: (254 20) 762 4147

Division of GEF Coordination

United Nations Environment Programme

P.O. Box 30552-00100, Nairobi, Kenya

ANNEX II

AGENDA

Agenda

Monday, 18 October 2010

- 08:45 - 09:00 **Registration of the participants**
- 09:00 – 09:15 **Agenda item 1: Opening of the meeting, objectives of the meeting, introduction of the participants**
The meeting will be opened by Ms. Maria Luisa Silva Mejias, the MAP Deputy Coordinator and Officer-in-Charge. The participants will be informed on the objectives of the meeting by the Chair, Mr. Ivica Trumbic, MedPartnership Project Manager.
- 09:15 – 09:30 **Agenda item 2: MedPartnership's current status of implementation**
The summary report on the MedPartnership's status of implementation will be given, including the main outputs, outcomes and achievements after one year of implementation, relative to the project's objectives. The critical issues, gaps and problems that need to be solved in the near future will be presented, including the assessment of the direction where this project is heading and the tasks to be undertaken before the Midterm evaluation in early 2012 (Kelly West, Ivica Trumbic).
- 09:30 – 11:00 **Agenda item 3: Report by the MedPartnership's partners**
Each partner will be given 15 minutes to present its achievements in the past year. The presentations will concentrate on the concrete outputs and will give an estimate of the rate of activities' implementation. Partners will point to problems that are causing eventual delays in the implementation as well as on the measures to overcome these obstacles (UNESCO-IHP, PAP/RAC, GWP, MEDPOL, CP/RAC and UNIDO)
- 11:00 – 11:30 Coffee break
- 11:30 – 13:30 **Agenda item 3: Report by the MedPartnership's partners (continued)**
Each partner will be given 15 minutes to present its achievements in the past year. The presentations will concentrate on the concrete outputs and will give an estimate of the rate of activities' implementation. Partners will point to problems that are causing delays in the implementation as well as on the measures to overcome these obstacles (WWF-MedPO, SPA/RAC, FAO, PMU, MIO-ECSDE, World Bank)
- 13:30 – 15:00 Lunch break
- 15:00 – 16:30 **Agenda item 4: Communication Strategy: Current status, organizational issues, next activities**
The Communication and Replication Strategies are the critical tools for the integration of the project's components, and their implementation is crucial in delivering the long lasting and tangible results of the project. The detailed Communication plan for 2010 and 2011 will be discussed with inputs from all participants (Ivica Trumbic and Claudio Maricchiolo).

- 16:30 – 16:45 Coffee break
- 16:45 – 18:15 **Agenda item 5: Replication Strategy: Current status, organizational issues, next activities**
The revised Replication Strategy and plan of activities will be presented, based on recommendations made during the meeting for the Coordination of Activities between “Sustainable Med” Projects and the Regional Component of the “MedPartnership”, held in Zagreb (31 May - 1 June 2010) with a discussion focused on how to involve all partners and national teams in the process (Andrea Merla, Arthur Pasquale).

Tuesday, 19 October 2010

- 09:00 – 09:30 **Agenda item 6: The 2010 Annual Report**
The content of the 2010 Yearly report will be presented and agreed with all participants, which will include a summary of the status of the project, the list of meetings for 2011, detailed work-plan for 2011 (Virginie Hart).
- 09:30 – 10:00 **Agenda item 7: Second Steering Committee Meeting: Issues, agenda, time and venue, documents**
Next meeting of the Steering Committee is tentatively planned to take place in Damascus in February 2011. The partners will discuss and propose the date of the meeting, issues to be discussed at the meeting, the documents to be prepared and the tentative agenda of the meeting (Ivica Trumbic).
- 10:00 – 11:00 **Agenda item 8: Plan of activities for 2011**
Each partner will have ten minutes to present the programme of activities and results to be achieved in 2011. With a view to the Mid term evaluation, to be performed in early 2012, partners will also present an assessment of the total amount of the work done and results achieved with regards to the project document and their objectives.
- 11:00 – 11:30 Coffee break
- 11:30 – 12:00 **Agenda item 8 (continued)**
Each partner will have ten minutes to present the programme of activities and results to be achieved in 2011. With a view to the Mid term evaluation, to be performed in early 2012, partners will also present an assessment of the total amount of the work done and results achieved with regards to the project document and their objectives.
- 12:00 – 12:30 **Agenda item 9: Budgetary issues**
An overview will be provided on the current status of the budget, expenditure rate of the project and on financial reporting. Introduction to the 2nd Steering Committee Meeting budget revision (Giorgos Petridis).
- 12:30 – 13:00 **Agenda item 10: 6th GEF International Waters Conference in 2011**
Next GEF IW conference, including the celebration of 20 years of GEF, will take place in the Mediterranean. MAP, together with IWLEARN and

GWP, is one of the organizers of the conference. Partners will discuss and agree on their contribution to the conference (Ivica Trumbic).

13:00 –14:00

Agenda item 11: Conclusions and recommendations, closure of the meeting

ANNEX III

Project Implementation Review For 2009/2010

ANNEX IV

STATUS OF WORLD BANK INVESTMENT FUND AND “SUSTAINABLE MED” PROJECTS

STATUS OF WORLD BANK INVESTMENT FUND AND “SUSTAINABLE MED” PROJECTS

Country	GEF Title	Description	Team Leader	Finance	Status GEF
INVESTMENT FUND (1st TRANCHE)					
Regional (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia)	GEF: 2132 WB: P084608 Neretva and Trebisnjica Management Project - under Investment Fund for the Mediterranean Sea LME Partnership ⁴⁰	The development and global environmental objective of the Neretva and Trebisnjica River Basin Management Project for Europe and Central Asia is to provide mechanisms for the efficient and equitable water allocation amongst the users of the Neretva and Trebisnjica river basin (NTRB) at the transboundary level, and for enhancing the basin ecosystems and biodiversity through improved water resources management. There are four components to the project. The first component will strengthen the institutional capacity for the comprehensive management of the NTRB's water resources and environment through institution and capacity building; measurement, monitoring and information management and preparation of a river basin management planning. The second component will maintain and conserve water dependent ecosystems and their associated biodiversity in the NTRB, according to requirements of the European Union (EU) Water Framework Directive (WFD) through improved operation of reservoirs, hydropower plants and dams and rehabilitation of small scale water management infrastructure. The third component will reduce water pollution to the NTRB through high priority investments in low cost, appropriate wastewater technology improvements in three municipalities (Bileca, Konjic, Ljubuski, Nevesinje and Trebinje) and two industrial sector investments (Konjic) in BiH through municipal wastewater treatment improvements, industrial pollution control and strengthening of water quality monitoring laboratories. The fourth component will increase civil society participation in the decision making process for water resource management and to establish an incentive mechanism for responsible, local level resource management.	Guy J. Alaerts Galaerts@worldbank.org	Total 21,580,000 GEF: 8,430,000 Co-finance: 13,150,000	CEO Endorsed

⁴⁰ <http://www.gefonline.org/projectDetailsSQL.cfm?projID=2132>

Country	GEF Title	Description	Team Leader	Finance	Status GEF
Croatia	GEF: 3725 WB: P102395 Coastal Cities Pollution Control ⁴¹	The objectives of the Second Coastal Cities Pollution Control Project are: (i) to improve the provision of efficient and sustainable wastewater services in participating coastal municipalities; and (ii) to reduce the nutrient load entering Croatia's coastal waters from, and pilot innovative 'wastewater treatment solutions in, selected municipalities. There are three components to the project. The first component of the project is wastewater investments. This component will improve the coverage of wastewater collection, treatment, and disposal services. The second component of the project is institutional strengthening. This component will improve the ability of the sector to meet European Union (EU) accession requirements; to improve the financial and operational efficiency of the municipal water and sewerage companies; and to effectively manage the project. The third and final component of the project is seawater quality monitoring. This component will improve the seawater quality monitoring systems of Hrvatske Vode (HV), and the Ministry of Environmental Protection, Physical Planning and Construction (MEPPPC) to better assess the impact of the investments in wastewater collection and treatment.	Stjepan Gabric sgabric@worldbank.org	Total 208,400,000 GEF: 6,400,000 Co-finance: 202,000,000	CEO Endorsed
Egypt	GEF: 2602 WB: P095925 Alexandria Coastal Zone Management Project ⁴²	The objective of the project is to improve the institutional mechanisms for sustainable coastal zone management in Alexandria, in particular to reduce land-based pollution to the Mediterranean Sea. The project will assist small-scale investments that will reduce the load of land-based sources of pollution entering the Mediterranean Sea in the "hot spots" of El-Mex Bay and Alexandria in Egypt. The total project budget is estimated at US\$ 7.15 million. The project is linked to the World Bank-financed Second Egypt Pollution Abatement Project which provides loans to industries in Alexandria (and greater Cairo) to improve its environmental performance. The Government of Egypt is also investing around US\$ 600 million to upgrade two main wastewater treatment plants serving Alexandria from primary to secondary treatment.	Maged Mahmoud Hamed mhamed1@worldbank.org	Total 654,503,293 GEF: 7,150,000 Co-finance: 647,003,293	CEO Endorsed
SUSTAINABLE MED - APPROVED					

⁴¹ <http://www.gefonline.org/projectDetailsSQL.cfm?projID=3725>

⁴² <http://www.gefonline.org/projectDetailsSQL.cfm?projID=2602>

Country	GEF Title	Description	Team Leader	Finance	Status GEF
Tunisia	<p>GEF: 3974 WB: P118131 TF: 096891</p> <p>WB: P117082 Tunisia Northern Tunis Wastewater Project⁴³</p>	<p>This is a five year project under the Sustainable MED program, to be delivered in FY11 which will reduce treated wastewater discharge from Greater Tunis into the Gulf of Tunis, an environmentally sensitive area of the Mediterranean Sea, and to scale-up the reuse of treated wastewater in agriculture and promoting recharge of over-exploited aquifers. The project will thereby contribute to directly reducing pollution and improving water quality in the Mediterranean Sea and to biodiversity conservation in the ecosystems of the Gulf of Tunis. Funding: includes IBRD investment lending (c. \$ 50mil), GEF funding: \$8.8 million, and other co-financing for total investment of \$547 million.</p>	<p>Xavier de Beauchene</p> <p>xchauvot@worldbank.org</p>	<p>Total 555,000,000</p> <p>GEF: 8,000,000</p> <p>Co-finance: 547,000,000</p>	<p>Approved by GEF council for pipeline entry in june 2009</p>
Egypt	<p>GEF: 3991 WB: P118090 Enhanced Water Resources Management⁴⁴</p>	<p>This is a 4 year project under the Sustainable MED program, to be delivered in FY11 and aims to improve water resources management; thus leading to reducing pollution loads in the Nile Delta Drains and the Mediterranean Sea through targeted pilot investments, technical assistance and knowledge generation. This will be achieved through improving quality and availability of surface and ground water and their effective management in response to climatic variability including flood and drought as well as water scarcity. These pilots will form the basis for scaling up investments through the Government's Integrated Water Resources Management Plan and contribute even more significantly to depollution and improved ecosystem health of the Mediterranean Sea and its biodiversity resources. Funding: includes IBRD investment lending (c. \$ 50mil), GEF funding: \$7.4million, and other co-financing from government, bilateras for total investment of \$34 million.</p>	<p>Yoshiharu Kobayashi</p> <p>ykobayashi1@worldbank.org</p>	<p>Total 40,982,500</p> <p>GEF: 6,682,500</p> <p>Co-finance: 34,300,000</p>	<p>Approved by GEF council for pipeline entry in June 2009</p>

⁴³ <http://www.gefonline.org/projectDetailsSQL.cfm?projID=3974>

⁴⁴ <http://www.gefonline.org/projectDetailsSQL.cfm?projID=3991>

Country	GEF Title	Description	Team Leader	Finance	Status GEF
Syria	GEF: 3970 WB: P118068 Coastal Rivers and Orontes River Basins Water Resources Management Project ⁴⁵	This is a 4 year project under the Sustainable MED program to be delivered in FY11. The objective is to support the Government's effort in reducing pollution and strengthening the framework for improved integrated water resources management (IWRM) and integrated coastal zone management (ICZM) and in reducing impact of climate change on critical ecosystems in line with the Strategy and National Environmental Action Plan (SAP). This will be done by (i) strengthening institutional capacity among key stakeholders, (ii) improving planning for management of water resources and coastal zone, (iii) incorporating climate change risks in the planning and management of water resources and (iv) supporting demonstrative pilot investments in the Coastal and Orontes River Basins.	Yoshiharu Kobayashi ykobayashi1@worldbank.org	Total 8,000,000 GEF: 3,050,000 Co-finance: 4,950,000	Approved by GEF council for pipeline entry in June 2009
Regional (Egypt, Syria, Jordan, WB&G)	GEF: 3978 WB: P117170 Regional Coordination on Improved Water Resources Management and Capacity Building in Cooperation with NASA ⁴⁶	This is a four year TA project under the Sustainable MED program that will be delivered in FY11. The project will aim to help water managers in countries around the Mediterranean sea and across the Arab world understand water availability and consumption using consistent measures and methods so that data can be compared across countries. This understanding will enable decision-makers to improve management of water resources, as well as land and vegetation and help them deal with water scarcity, droughts, floods and the uncertainties associated with climate change. The project will allow the Mediterranean basin and the Arab world to benefit from the latest technologies and techniques to help them reduce environmental degradation and better manage their scarce water resources.	Claire Kfour ckfour@worldbank.org	Total 87,679,545 GEF: 5,644,545 Co-finance: 82,035,000	Approved by GEF council for pipeline entry in June 2009
Regional	GEF: 4001 WB: P118145 Sustainable MED Governance and Knowledge Generation ⁴⁷	This is a five year project that will be delivered in FY11, and which seeks to secure and enhance the delivery and impact of the Sustainable MED program and to put in place "sustainability elements". It aims at supporting the evolution of public policies by providing decision makers and donors with information and discussion platform that will enforce the adoption of a shared common vision, mainstream common and shared environmental issues, strengthen institutional and regulatory frameworks and identify relevant investments, for an improved governance of freshwater, coastal and marine resources at the regional Mediterranean and at the country levels, for an improved governance of freshwater, coastal and marine resources at the regional Mediterranean and at the country levels.	Sergio Margulis smargulis@worldbank.org	Total 9,600,000 GEF: 3,000,000 Co-finance: 6,600,000	Approved by GEF Council/CEO in June 2010

⁴⁵ <http://www.gefonline.org/projectDetailsSQL.cfm?projID=3970>

⁴⁶ <http://www.gefonline.org/projectDetailsSQL.cfm?projID=3978>

⁴⁷ <http://www.gefonline.org/projectDetailsSQL.cfm?projID=4001>

Country	GEF Title	Description	Team Leader	Finance	Status GEF
Regional (Morocco, Syria, Jordan, West Bank and Gaza)	GEF: 4205 Regional Technical Assistance and Capacity Building for the Promotion of Treated Wastewater Reuse in the Mediterranean ⁴⁸	This is a 4 year project under the Sustainable MED program that will be delivered in FY12; and aims to promote implementation of modern wastewater treatment and recycling technology promote in the MENA region.	Tracy Hart thart@worldbank.org	Total 11,345,455	Approved by GEF Council/CEO in June 2010
				GEF: 4,545,455 Co-finance: 6,800,000	
Morocco	GEF: 4198 WB: P121271 Integrated Coastal Zone Management ⁴⁹	This is a 4 year project under the Sustainable MED program that will be delivered in FY12. The objective of the proposed project is to support integrated coastal zone management in selected areas of Morocco's Mediterranean coast to reduce pollution and loss of biodiversity and to enhance communities' resilience to climactic risk.	Kanta Rigaud Kkumari@worldbank.org	Total 25,381,818	Approved by GEF Council/CEO in June 2010
				GEF: 5,181,818 Co-finance: 20,000,000	
REGIONAL (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Algeria, Egypt, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Montenegro, Syria, Tunisia)	GEF: 3990 Integration of Climatic Variability and Change into National Strategies to implement the ICZM Protocol in the Mediterranean ⁵⁰	This project will assist countries to implement the ICZM Protocol by facilitating region wide coordination mechanisms, national actions and the development of tools to address climate variability in the Mediterranean through three components: 1. Development of regional climate variability monitoring programme; 2. Strengthening of knowledge base; 3. Strengthening partnerships, capacity and exchange for implementation of the ICZM protocol and dissemination of project experiences and lessons.	Virginie Hart Virginie.hart@unepmap.gr	Total 7,000,000	PIF approved in November 2010
				GEF: 2,454,545 Co-finance: 9,610,545	
SUSTAINABLE MED - NOT YET APPROVED					

⁴⁸ <http://www.gefonline.org/projectDetailsSQL.cfm?projID=4205>

⁴⁹ <http://www.gefonline.org/projectDetailsSQL.cfm?projID=4198>

⁵⁰ <http://www.gefonline.org/projectDetailsSQL.cfm?projID=3990>

Country	GEF Title	Description	Team Leader	Finance	Status GEF
Libya	GEF: 4211 Integrated Coastal Zone Management for Conservation and Economic Development ⁵¹	This is a 4 year project under the Sustainable MED program that will be delivered in FY12. The project objective is to ensure that Libya's valuable coastal areas are managed sustainably in order to attain socio-economic benefits (in particular from tourism and the fishing industry), while at the same time reducing environmental pressures on coastal waters and sustaining biodiversity. Since the proposed Project would be supported with the first GEF grant to the country, and since limited data is available and management capacities are weak, additional objectives include setting up regular data gathering and analysis, and building institutional capacity for analysis, planning for Integrated Coastal Zone Management, and project implementation.	Kanta Rigaud Kkumari@worldbank.org	Total 21,340,000 GEF: 6,040,000 Co-finance: 15,300,000	Submitted on a rolling basis for pipeline entry
Regional (Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya and possibly Malta)	GEF: 4208 Western Mediterranean Marine Highway Development and Coastal Marine Contamination ⁵²	This is a 2 year TA project under the Sustainable MED program that will be delivered in FY11. The project will undertake a risk analysis and feasibility study to reduce the risk and pressures on fisheries and marine biodiversity and risk of ship-based environmental contamination (such as oil spills from groundings and illegal discharges of ballast and bilge waters). This activity is not funded by GEF awaiting the outcome of discussions.	Abdelmoula Ghzala Aghzala@worldbank.org	Total 29,000,000 GEF: 9,000,000 Co-finance: 20,000,000	Due to lack of funding left in the IW focal Area for the rest of GEF4, this proposal was not recommended yet for CEO Clearance

⁵¹ <http://www.gefonline.org/projectDetailsSQL.cfm?projID=4211>

⁵² <http://www.gefonline.org/projectDetailsSQL.cfm?projID=4208>