

## **Draft Conclusions of the second Meeting of Technical Experts on the Application of the Ecosystem Approach by MAP, Barcelona, Spain, 6-7 July 2010**

The Second Meeting of Technical Experts on the Ecosystem Approach (ECAP), held on 6-7 July 2010, appreciating the work carried out by the Coordinating Unit, MEDPOL, SPA RAC and Blue Plan RAC for submitting on time the consolidated versions of the sectorial and integrated sub-regional reports and agreed on a number of conclusions as follows:

### **1. Assessment Report**

#### **a. Content**

1. The integrated Assessment Report should contain four integrated sub-regional assessment chapters and one Mediterranean-wide chapter on commonalities. Each chapter should contain conclusions and identify information gaps.
2. The integrated sub-regional chapters should follow the table of contents agreed by the July 2008 meeting of Government-designated experts. The meeting highlighted the need to include to the extent possible information on pressures on coastal areas, including particularly physical parameters and maritime activities that are not yet addressed in the current version of the assessment report.
3. With a view to ensuring consistency and coherence among the four sub-regional chapters, all elements of the table of contents should be included in each chapter irrespective of the current availability of data/information.
4. Specific information/data gaps should be highlighted with a view to indicating in which areas such gaps exist and how they should be filled.
5. The chapter on the Mediterranean-wide assessment should be drafted in accordance with the elements indicated in Annex I to these conclusions.
6. The sectorial sub-regional reports should be further developed by the respective MAP components with a view to preparing a quality status report which will be submitted to the next meeting of the Contracting Parties as the State of the Environment Report for the Mediterranean.

#### **b. Process**

1. The countries concerned undertake to provide comments to the draft assessment report and additional information by 30 September 2010 with a view to enabling the Secretariat to include such information, as need be, in the sectorial sub-regional reports and the sub-regional chapters of the integrated Assessment Report.
2. The revised version of the integrated Assessment Report should be sent by the Coordinating Unit by end-October 2010 for consideration by countries, including internal scientific peer review, as need be, the feedback from which should be submitted to the Secretariat by 15 December 2010, at the latest.
3. Subject to availability of resources, the final version of the report will be scientifically peer reviewed through a process to be determined by the Bureau of the Contracting Parties. The final report should be circulated by April 2011 for the consideration and finalization by the regional expert meeting scheduled in May 2011 for transmission to the meeting of MAP Focal Points.

### **2. Ecological objectives**

The 11 European Union Marine Strategy Framework Directive descriptors should be used as the basis for developing Mediterranean ecological objectives, taking also into account the issues emerging from the finalized integrated Assessment Report, socio economic considerations, ICZM and cumulative impacts to be discussed at the next meeting of technical experts on ecosystem approach.

### **3. Monitoring**

MAP should develop an integrated monitoring programme in line with the ecosystem approach.

### **4. Evaluation of the effectiveness of management measures**

The Secretariat should prepare a methodology based on relevant international approaches for the evaluation of the effectiveness of the management measures adopted in the framework of the implementation of the Ecosystem Approach.

### **5. Timeframe for the implementation of Decision IG 17/5 on the application of the Ecosystem Approach by MAP**

The Secretariat should prepare a draft decision on the timeframe for the implementation of Decision IG 17/5 on the application of the Ecosystem Approach by MAP for discussion at the forthcoming regional meeting of experts.

The draft decision should address the remaining steps of the road map including an integrated environmental monitoring programme.

### **6. Ecosystem Approach Work Plan 2010-2011**

The meeting adopted the Ecosystem Approach Work Plan 2010-2011, as presented in Annex II to these conclusions.

## Annexes

### Annex I. Table of contents of Part III of the integrated Assessment Report

#### **III. Commonalities: Mediterranean Wide Assessment**

1. Introduction: The value of a region-wide perspective on ecosystem condition
2. Brief description of the physical, chemical, and biological characteristics
3. Ecosystem services and known ecosystem service values
4. Pressures and impacts
5. Drivers
6. Cumulative and concurrent impacts
7. Conclusions and information gap analysis on pressures and impacts

**Annex II Ecosystem Approach Work plan 2010-2011**

OUTPUTS	Jul-Dec 2010						Jan-Mar 2011			Apr.-Jul 2011				Sep-Nov 2011		
	July	Aug	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	SEP	OCT	NOV
<b>1. ASSESSMENT REPORT</b>																
<i>1.1 Mapping/GIS finalization</i>																
<i>1.2 Comments by Contracting Parties on the sectorial and integrated reports</i>																
<i>1.3 Peer Review by the Contracting Parties</i>																
<i>1.4 Incorporation of CPs comments in the sectorial and integrated reports</i>																
<i>1.5 Incorporating the available information from regional organizations information</i>																
<i>1.6 Further development of sub regional sectorial reports into a QSR</i>																
<b>2. ECOLOGICAL OBJECTIVES (EO)</b>																
<i>2.1 Selection of EO for good environmental status (GES)</i>																
<b>3. OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVES</b>																
<i>3.1 Analysis of possible indicators and selection</i>																
<i>3.3 First discussion on targets for selected indicators, as appropriate for GES</i>																
<i>3.4 Definition of targets<sup>1</sup></i>																
<i>3.5 Definition of GES</i>																
<b>4. Draft decision on the timeframe for the implementation of the ecosystem approach roadmap</b>																
<b>5. Regional and intergovernmental</b>														2		

1. if data are available
2. back to back with MAP Focal Points meetings, if need be