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Meeting of the Correspondence Group on Monitoring (CORMON), Biodiversity and Fisheries

Madrid, Spain, 28<sup>th</sup> February – 1<sup>st</sup> March 2017

**Agenda item 2: Adoption of the agenda and election of officers****Provisional Annotated Agenda**

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## **Provisional Annotated Agenda**

### **Introduction**

In accordance with the UNEP/MAP Programme of Work 2016-2017 adopted by COP 19, Athens, Greece, 9-12 February 2016, SPA/RAC is organizing the meeting of the Ecosystem Approach Correspondence Group on Monitoring (CORMON), Biodiversity and Fisheries on February 28 – March 01, 2017, in Madrid, Spain. It will be followed by a Science-Policy Interface workshop on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of March 2017.

The main objectives of this CORMON meeting are to:

- a) share and exchange information on the revision of the national monitoring programmes to be updated in light of the Integrated Monitoring and assessment programme (IMAP) adopted by COP 19 (Athens, Greece, 9-12 February 2016),
- b) review and discuss elaborated documents on biodiversity (EO1) and NIS (EO2) common indicators and update on the development of the candidate indicators of EO3 by the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM),
- c) review and discuss the concept and timelines for the elaboration of the 2017 Quality Status Report;

Working languages of the Meeting will be English and French, simultaneous translation will be provided during the plenary sessions of the Meeting.

The documents prepared for the meeting are listed in Document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.430/Inf.1 and are available on the SPA/RAC website at the following link: <http://www.rac-spa.org/cormon.html>.

The Meeting Documents will not be distributed at the meeting. Delegates are kindly requested to bring their copies to the meeting and not to request additional copies.

### **Agenda item 1.           Opening of the Meeting**

The opening of the meeting will take place at 9.30 a.m. on Tuesday, 28<sup>th</sup> February 2017 in the Ports of the State office (Puertos del Estado, Sala plurifuncional, 1st floor, Avda. del Partenón, 10 - 28042 Madrid). The Director of SPA/RAC will open the meeting, present its objectives and will invite the representatives of the Government of the Host Country (Spain) and of the Barcelona Convention Secretariat to address the participants.

## **Agenda item 2. Adoption of the agenda and election of officers**

UNEP(DEPI)/MEDWG.430/1, UNEP(DEPI)/MEDWG.430/2  
UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.430/Inf.1

The Secretariat will recall that the internal rules adopted for meetings and conferences of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the protection of the Mediterranean Sea against pollution and its related protocols (UNEP/IG.43/6, Appendix XI) will apply *mutatis mutandis* to this meeting. In accordance with these rules, the Meeting will be invited to elect a Chairperson, two (02) Vice-Chairpersons and one (01) Rapporteur from among the representatives of the Contracting Parties.

SPA/RAC will present the provisional Agenda contained in Document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.430/1 and annotated in Document UNEP(DEPI)/MEDWG.430/2. The meeting will be invited to review and adopt the proposed agenda and timetable.

## **Agenda item 3. Implementation of the Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme (IMAP)**

UNEP(DEPI)/MEDWG.430/Inf.3

Under this agenda item information will be provided on the Ecosystem Approach process, the implementation of the Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme (IMAP) as well as on the agreed common indicators.

The secretariat will present the main objective of the Ecosystem Approach roadmap and the key steps to be undertaken in order to achieve the vision of “*A healthy Mediterranean with marine and coastal ecosystems that are productive and biologically diverse for the benefit of present and future generations*”.

- a) Current status of national monitoring and assessment programmes on biodiversity and NIS

The representatives of the Contracting Parties will be invited to orally present (5 min) the current status of the relevant existent national monitoring programmes. The delegates are kindly requested to organise their oral presentations according to these points:

- The current experience on monitoring programmes related to biodiversity and NIS common indicators,
- The challenges faced/encountered and lessons learned during the implementation of the monitoring programme,
- Monitoring data availability and major gaps
- Key national needs for the implementation of IMAP at national levels

- b) Exchange of best practices

Under this agenda item, the secretariat will present the guidelines for the preparation of the country-specific EcAp monitoring programme for Biodiversity and Non-Indigenous Species. The guidelines aim at providing the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention with technical guidance for the IMAP implementation, as well as at harmonizing the national monitoring programmes.

Participants will be informed about the results of the assessment of the level of coherence of the monitoring programme of the Mediterranean EU Member States under the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) Article 11 on Monitoring programmes.

Best practices and possible mechanisms for follow up, exchange and support between countries will be identified and discussed.

**Agenda item 4. Common indicator factsheets for biodiversity (EO1), NIS (EO2) and fisheries (EO3)**

UNEP(DEPI)/MEDWG.430/3

The Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Guidance presented at COP 19 in February 2016 provides indications on how to monitor the adopted indicators related to Biodiversity and NIS. Draft indicator guidance factsheets for the six biodiversity and NIS indicators have been developed in order to better assist countries in the update of their monitoring programmes.

The secretariat will present the elaborated draft indicator factsheets for discussion, review and advice by the CORMON for their further development. The representative of GFCM will present recent development relevant to EcAp on candidate indicators related to the EO3.

Participants will be invited to provide suggestions, comments and recommendations on further work on indicators in order to revise and finalize the factsheets for consideration by the next SPA/RAC Focal Points meeting scheduled for May 2017.

**Agenda item 5. Common indicator assessment factsheet (EO1 and EO2)**

UNEP(DEPI)/MEDWG.430/4

The Secretariat will introduce Document UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.430/4 containing a Draft template of common indicator assessment factsheet (EO1 and EO2). Participants will be invited to review the draft template and provide suggestions and comments in order to submit it for consideration by the SPA/RAC Focal Points meeting in 2017.

**Agenda item 6. Monitoring data management and reporting**

The representatives of the Contracting Parties and of the partner organisations will be invited to present briefly the situation in their countries or organisations regarding the management of data issued from monitoring and regular surveys on biodiversity and NIS, as well as about reporting obligations, if any.

Participants will be informed about the progress made so far in the development of the new Data Centre of InfoMAP platform. This platform aims to improve governance for knowledge sharing and support cooperation and data sharing/interoperability between InfoMAP and other networks or regional nodes.

**Agenda item 7. Progress in the preparation of the 2017 Mediterranean Quality Status Report related to biodiversity and NIS (EO1-EO2)**

UNEP(DEPI)/MEDWG.430/5  
UNEP(DEPI)/MEDWG.430/Inf.4

SPA/RAC will present the concept for the preparation of the QSR2017 related to biodiversity component as well as the preliminary version of the relevant indicator assessment factsheets. In this context, it will introduce Documents UNEP(DEPI)/MEDWG.430/5 and UNEP(DEPI)/MEDWG.430/Inf.4.

Participants will be invited to consider the presented documents and provide their views and recommendations for the further elaboration of the factsheets.

**Agenda item 8. Any other matters**

Under this agenda item, the Meeting will consider any other relevant matter that may be raised by the participants and agreed during the adoption of the provisional agenda.

Following a request from the ACCOBAMS Secretariat, the “QUITMED” project about monitoring underwater noise in the Mediterranean Sea will be presented briefly by the representative of ACCOBAMS.

**Agenda item 9. Conclusions and Recommendations**

At its final session, the Meeting will be invited to review and adopt the list of main conclusions and recommendations to be prepared by the Secretariat. The report of the Meeting will be circulated, as a draft, by Email for comments by the participants before its finalisation.

**Agenda item 10. Closure of the meeting**

The Meeting is expected to be closed at 06:00 p.m. on Wednesday, 01<sup>st</sup> March 2017.

**TIMETABLE**  
**28 February– 1 March 2017**

<b>Tuesday 28 February 2017</b>		<b>Relevant documents</b>
09:00-09:30	<i>Registration</i>	
09:30-09:45	Agenda Item 1. Opening of the Meeting	
	Agenda Item 2. Adoption of the agenda and election of officers	UNEP(DEPI)/MEDWG.430/1 UNEP(DEPI)/MEDWG.430/2 UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.430/Inf.1
09:45-11:30	Agenda item 3. Implementation of the Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme (IMAP)	UNEP(DEPI)/MEDWG.430/Inf.3
11:30 – 11:45	<i>Coffee break</i>	
11:45-13:00	Agenda item 4. Common indicator factsheets for biodiversity (EO1), NIS (EO2) and fisheries (EO3)	UNEP(DEPI)/MEDWG.430/3
13:00-15:00	<i>Lunch break</i>	
15:00-16:30	Agenda item 4. Common indicator factsheets for biodiversity (EO1), NIS (EO2) and fisheries (EO3) (continued)	UNEP(DEPI)/MEDWG.430/3
16:30 - 16:45	<i>Coffee break</i>	
16:45 -18:00	Agenda item 5. Common indicator assessment factsheet (EO1 and EO2)	UNEP(DEPI)/MEDWG.430/4
<b>Wednesday 1 March 2017</b>		
09:00-13:00  (Coffee break 11:00 – 11:15)	Agenda item 5. Common indicator assessment factsheet (EO1 and EO2) (continued)	UNEP(DEPI)/MEDWG.430/4
	Agenda item 6. Monitoring data management and reporting	
	Agenda item 7. Progress in the preparation of the 2017 Mediterranean Quality Status Report related to biodiversity and NIS (EO1-EO2)	UNEP(DEPI)/MEDWG.430/5 UNEP(DEPI)/MEDWG.430/Inf.4
13:00-15:00	<i>Lunch break</i>	
15:00-18:00  (Coffee break 16:15 – 16:30)	Agenda item 8. Any other matters	
	Agenda item 9. Conclusions and Recommendations	
	Agenda item 10. Closure of the meeting	