

AN EVALUATION OF THE WORK CARRIED OUT BY THE
MEDITERRANEAN
COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

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ABSTRACT

AN EVALUATION OF THE WORK CARRIED OUT MEDITERRANEAN COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

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The Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD) is established as an advisory body within the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) framework, in order to provide advice on programs and prepare recommendations for the Contracting Parties. The MCSD identifies and evaluates major economic, environmental and social problems specified in Agenda MED 21. It aims to track the implementation of the proposals it submits to the Contracting Parties. Furthermore, the MCSD is open to participation from the main groups of the society, which have equal footing alongside government representatives.

Within the limits imposed upon it, the MCSD provides a regional forum for dialogue and a promising framework for defining a regional sustainable development strategy in the Mediterranean. Its regional nature and its composition constitute an innovative contribution to promote the integration of environmental concerns in development policies.

The object of this study is to evaluate the work that has been carried out by MCSD and understand the complex structure of an institution through which international and regional cooperation and coordination is achieved.

Keywords: Sustainable Development, MAP, Coastal Zone Management, MCSD

ÖZ

AKDENİZ SÜRDÜRÜLEBİLİR KALKINMA KOMİSYONU TARAFINDAN GERÇEKLEŞTİRİLEN ÇALIŞMALARININ DEĞERLENDİRİLMESİ

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Akdeniz Sürdürülebilir Kalkınma Komisyonu (MCSD) Akdeniz Eylem Planı çerçevesinde kurulmuş, programlar hakkında tavsiyelerde bulunmak ve öneriler hazırlamaya yönelik ve bir tavsiye kuruludur. MCSD Agenda MED 21’de belirtilen önemli ekonomik, çevresel ve sosyal konuları tanımlar ve değerlendirir. Hazırlanan önerilerin uygulanmasını takip etmeyi amaçlar.

MCSD toplumun bütün ana gruplarının, hükümet temsilcileriyle eşit haklara sahip olacak şekilde katılımına açıktır

Tanımlanan sınırları içinde MCSD bölgesel bir diyalof ortamı vazifesi görmektedir. MCSD aynı zamanda Akdeniz Bölgesi için yerel bir sürdürülebilir kalkınma stratejisi tanımlanması açısından umut verici bir oluşumdur. Özel yapısı ve bölgesel özelliği sayesinde çevresel önceliklerin

kalkınma politikalarına entegrasyonunun sağlanması için yayılmasına özgün katkılar sağlamaktadır.

Bu çalışmanın amacı MCSD tarafından yürütülen çalışmaların değerlendirilmesi ve MCSD gibi uluslararası ve bölgesel koordinasyon ve işbirliğini sağlayan bir kurumun yapısını anlamaktır.

Anahtar Kelimeler: Sürdürülebilir Kalkınma, MAP, Kıyı Alanları Yönetimi, MCSD

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LIST of ABBREVIATIONS

EU	European Union
MAP	Mediterranean Action Plan
MCSD	Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development
MSSD	Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
UN	United Nations
UNCED	United Nations Conference on Environment and Development
UNCSD	United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development
UNEP	United Nations Environmental Program
WSSD	World Summit on Sustainable Development

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION: HISTORY of SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT in the MEDITERRANEAN

The concept of Sustainable Development has always been recognized throughout most of the Mediterranean Region. It is possible to follow the development in the understanding of the concept in the declarations, adopted plans of action, conventions, conferences, resolutions and academic publications related with the environmental disciplines.

- United Nations Human-Environment Conference, Stockholm 1972
- United Nations Environmental Program (UNEP), 1973
- Regional Seas Program, 1974
- Mediterranean Action Plan, 1975
- Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea Against Pollution (The Barcelona Convention), 1976
- Brundtland Commission Report: Our Common Future, 1987
- United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, 1992
- Mediterranean Action Plan Phase II, 1995

- Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean, 1996

I.1 Mediterranean Action Plan, Barcelona 1975

In 1975, Mediterranean countries and the EEC adopted the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP). The main objectives of MAP were to assist the Mediterranean Governments to assess and control marine pollution, to formulate their national environment policies, to improve the ability of governments to identify better options for alternative patterns of development and to make better rational choices for allocation of resources.

Although the initial focus of the MAP was on marine pollution control, experience soon confirmed that socio-economic trends, combined with poor management and planning of development, are the root of most environmental problems, and that meaningful and lasting environmental protection is inseparably linked to social and economic development. Therefore, the focus of MAP gradually shifted from a sectoral approach to pollution to integrated coastal zone planning and management as the key tool through which solutions are being sought.

It is difficult to assess the progress achieved, but there is direct and indirect evidence that a large number of concrete actions were taken by many countries in conformity with the requirements and provisions of MAP, thus influencing the environmental policies and practices of the Mediterranean countries. MAP has been a significant instrument for change and progress concerning environmental matters in the Mediterranean. Among achievements of particular importance are the creations of awareness concerning the importance of a healthy environment for the present and future of the Mediterranean and its people; a marked change of attitude towards protection of environment, the policy making level and creating a sense of solidarity and the need to act collectively for the better future of the Mediterranean.

I.2 Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea Against Pollution (The Barcelona Convention), 1976

The Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea Against Pollution (the Barcelona Convention) was adopted on 16 February 1976 by the Conference of Plenipotentiaries of the Coastal States of the Mediterranean Region for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea, held in Barcelona. The Convention entered into force on 12 February 1978.

I.3 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro 1992 (UNCED, 3-14 June 1992)

The conference adopted Agenda 21, which is considered as a basic framework and a guide to deal with the environment and development in an integrated, comprehensive and balanced manner for the benefit of the present and future generations.

The General Assembly of the United Nations (47th session, September-December 1992) considered the report of UNCED and decided (by its resolution 47/90) to establish a United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development as a functional Commission of the Economic and Social Council, in order to ensure the effective follow-up of the UNCED Conference, as well as to enhance international co-operation and rationalize the intergovernmental decision-making capacity for the integration of environment and development issues and to examine the progress of the implementation of Agenda 21 at the national, regional and international levels, in order to achieve sustainable development in all countries.

I.4 Mediterranean Action Plan Phase II, 1995

MAP Phase II was designed taking into account the achievements and shortcomings of MAP's first twenty years of existence, as well as the results of recent developments such as United Nations Conference on Environment

and Development (Rio de Janeiro, 1992), the Eighth Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention (Antalya, 1993), and the Conference “Med 21” on Sustainable Development in the Mediterranean (Tunis, 1994).

The main objectives of MAP Phase II were:

- To ensure sustainable management of natural marine and land resources and to integrate the environment in social and economic development, and land-use policies
- To protect the marine environment and coastal zones through prevention of pollution, and by reduction and elimination of pollutant inputs
- To protect nature, and protect and enhance sites and landscapes of ecological or cultural value
- To strengthen solidarity among Mediterranean coastal states in managing their common heritage and resources for the benefit of present and future generations
- To contribute to improvement of quality of life

I.5 Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean, 1996 Barcelona

The original Barcelona Convention has been modified by amendments adopted on 10 June 1995 by the Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Convention for the protection of the Mediterranean Sea and its Protocols, held in Barcelona on 9 and 10 June 1995. The amended Convention is recorded as “Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and

the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean”, and is known as the “Barcelona Amendments”.

CHAPTER II

ESTABLISHMENT of MCSD

II.1 Establishment of the Commission

The post-Rio era was an important period in the history of the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) during which the Governments of the Mediterranean region and the European Community, in co-operation with concerned partners, started the process of translating and adapting principles elaborated by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED – Rio de Janeiro, 1992) to the Mediterranean context through the preparation of Agenda MED 21, reorientation of MAP, the Barcelona Convention and its protocols and the creation of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD).

United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro 1992 (UNCED, 3-14 June 1992) adopted Agenda 21, and set basic principles for sustainable development. Chapter 38 of Agenda 21 is titled as “International Institutional Arrangements”, and contains a set of important recommendations on institutional arrangements to follow up the Conference, particularly those on the establishment of a high-level Commission on Sustainable Development.

Aiming at making MAP actions more conducive to sustainable development, the Ministerial Conference “Agenda MED 21” on Sustainable Development in the Mediterranean, held in Tunis, on 1 November 1994, which was attended by Mediterranean Coastal States, the European Community, and several international organizations, determined to strengthen regional partnership

and solidarity and to give full effect to, and ensure the total respect for the implementation at the Mediterranean level of the recommendations of the UNCED conference. As a starting point Tunis Conference decided to develop a Mediterranean strategy including objectives and a calendar of actions, through Agenda MED 21 and the priorities set up by the Contracting Parties, and agreed in this context on the principle of setting up a Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD) within the framework of the Mediterranean Action Plan to monitor and review the implementation of this strategy. [1]

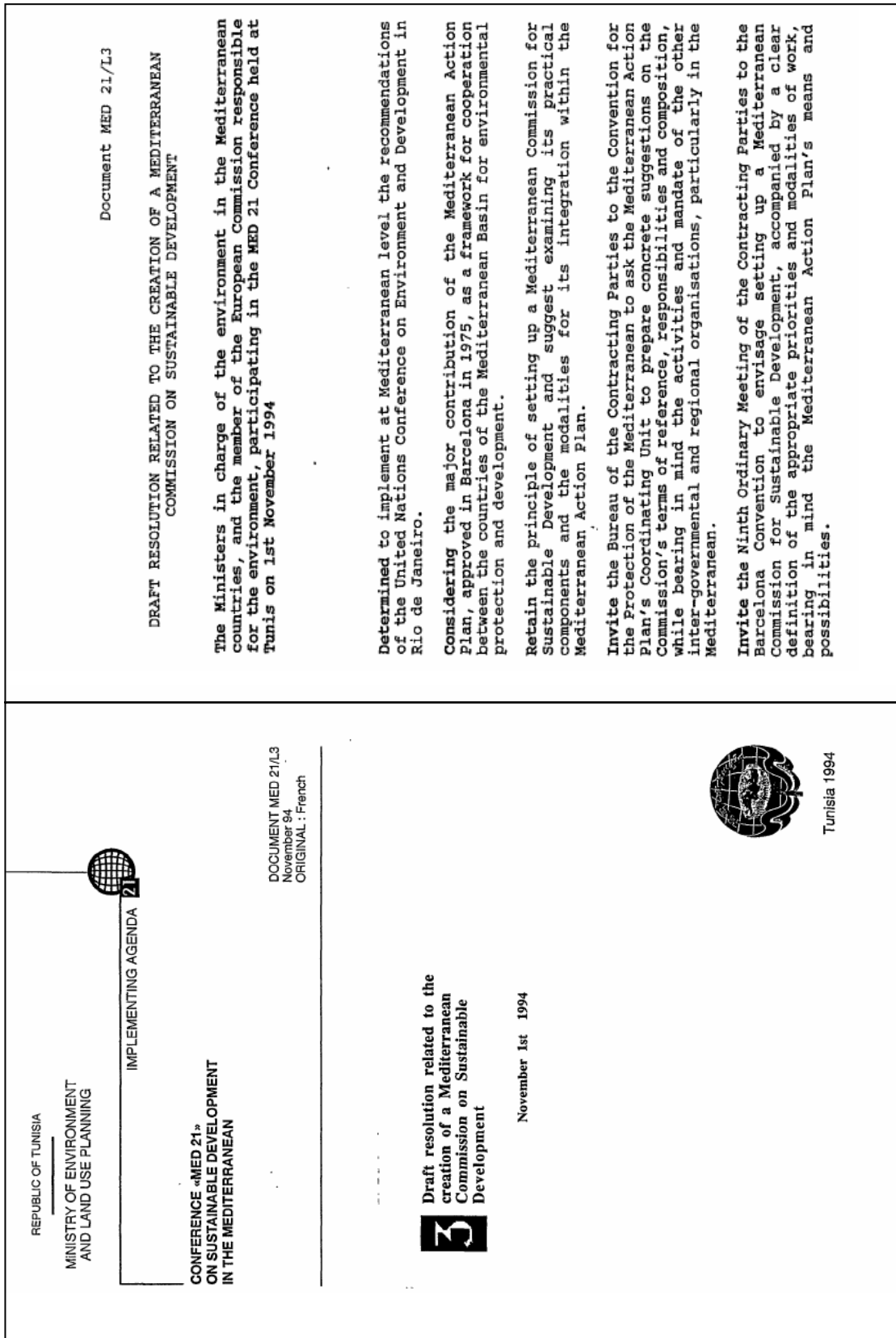


FIG. 1; Draft Resolution Related to the Creation of a Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development, [1], p.p. 1-2.

At the Ninth Ordinary Meeting (Barcelona, 5-8 June 1995) of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention, Mediterranean countries and European Union adopted a revised version of the Barcelona Convention as well as several other documents which redefined the role and tasks of MAP, in particular with regard to the needs for implementation of the concept of sustainable development in the Mediterranean region. One of the basic conclusions of the meeting was to create the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD) whose main task would be to make proposals to Mediterranean countries and other stakeholders in the region to facilitate realization of the sustainable development. In this regard, the Contracting Parties requested the Secretariat to prepare its terms of Reference and submit them to the Contracting Parties for adoption.

At the Ninth Ordinary Meeting (Barcelona, 5-8 June 1995) the Contracting Parties decided to create a Commission on Sustainable Development within the framework of MAP, and requested the Secretariat to prepare its terms of Reference and submit them to the Contracting Parties for adoption.

At their Extraordinary Meeting (Montpellier, 1-4 July 1996), the Contracting Parties approved the Terms of Reference as well as the Composition of the Commission. Moreover, the meeting authorized the Bureau of the Contracting Parties to make the first selection of the members of the Commission.

II.2 Purpose of the Commission

According to its terms of reference, the purpose of the MCSD is stated as:

- to identify, evaluate and examine major economic, ecological and social problems set out in Agenda MED 21, make appropriate proposals thereon to the meetings of the Contracting Parties, evaluate the effectiveness of the implementation of decisions taken by the

Contracting Parties and facilitate the exchange of information among institutions implementing activities related to sustainable development in the Mediterranean;

- To enhance regional cooperation and rationalize the inter-governmental decision-making capacity in the Mediterranean basin for the integration of environment and development issues.

CHAPTER III

STRUCTURE of the COMMISSION

The structure of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development was mainly outlined during the Extraordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution and its Protocols which was held in Montpellier (1 – 4 July 1996) [4]. The composition of the MCSD was outlined in Part C of the “Draft Terms of Reference of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD)”, which was proposed during this meeting.

“The Commission shall be composed of a maximum of 35 members, consisting of representatives from each Contracting Party to the Barcelona Convention and representatives of local authorities, socioeconomic actors and non-governmental organizations working in the fields of environment and of sustainable development. All representatives shall participate in the Commission on an equal footing.”

In this connection, the meeting requested the Secretariat to submit to the meeting of the Contracting Parties a proposal covering the respective numbers of representatives, the method of their nomination, the selection criteria and the duration of their mandate.

Main aspects of the proposal made by the Secretariat on the composition of the MCSD were as follows:

III.1 Number of Representatives

The Commission shall be composed of 36 members, consisting of representatives from each Contracting Party to the Barcelona Convention and representatives of local authorities, socio-economic actors and non-governmental organizations working in the fields of environment and sustainable development.

Each Contracting Party to the Barcelona Convention shall be represented by one high level representative (total 21), who may be accompanied by such alternates and advisers as may be required, in order to ensure interdisciplinary participation of relevant ministerial bodies of the Contracting Parties (e.g. ministries of environment, tourism, economy, development, industry, finance, energy, etc.).

Each of the three categories mentioned in the draft text of the Terms of Reference, i.e. local authorities, socio-economic actors and non-governmental organizations, shall be represented by 5 representatives (total 15), to be selected by the meeting of the Contracting Parties.

All representatives shall participate in the Commission on an equal footing.

III.2 Method of Nomination for Candidates

As the legal and administrative status of local authorities differs from one country to another, it is proposed that representatives of the local authorities may be selected through proposals from the governments of the Contracting Parties and through applications submitted directly from the various local authorities, to the Secretariat of MAP.

As the legal and administrative status of the socio-economic actors differs from one country to another, it is proposed that the representatives of the socio-economic actors may be selected through proposals from the

governments of the Contracting Parties and through applications submitted directly from the various networks in this category, to the Secretariat of MAP.

The criteria and the list of NGO-MAP partners approved by the Ninth Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties (Barcelona, 5-8 June 1995), shall be used as the reference text for any NGO who wishes to participate in the Commission's work.

Three categories of NGO's shall be represented in the Commission:

- NGO's with an international scope and multidisciplinary interest recognized in their status, especially those contributing to the Mediterranean cooperation and concerned with matters covering a substantial portion of MAP' s field of activity;
- NGO's with a regional scope covering more than one country in the whole Mediterranean area and covering a portion of MAP' s field of activity;
- NGO's with national or local scope covering a portion of MAP' s field of activity.

The selection of five NGO's may be done through NGO networks in the region and through direct applications to be submitted to the MAP Secretariat.

III.3 Method of Nomination of Members of the MCSD

The meeting of the Contracting Parties shall nominate the members of the Commission.

All members shall be appointed for a four-year term with the provision that one third (5) of the members of the three categories of local authorities,

socio-economic actors and NGO's, shall be replaced after the first two years, in order to give the opportunity for other organizations and actors to participate in the work of the Commission.

For the first meeting of the Commission (Fez, Morocco, December 1996), the Bureau of the Contracting Parties shall make the selection of the members of the Commission.

III.4 Selection Criteria

The criteria and the list of MAP/NGO partners, approved by the Ninth Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties held in Barcelona, 5-8 June 1995, shall be used as a reference text for selection of members of NGO's [4].

Priority for selection shall be given to Mediterranean actors/organizations/networks which are concerned with environmental and sustainable development issues in the Mediterranean.

The principle of equitable geographical distribution should be respected (north/south and east/west).

The local authority to be selected should have a Mediterranean scope and concerned with environmental and sustainable development issues.

The selection of socio economic actors should take into consideration the following factors:

- north/south representation
- developed/developing countries
- rural/urban

Networks dealing with important subjects such as tourism in the Mediterranean, food, youth/women shall be represented in the Commission.

Priority of selection shall be given to socio-economic networks active in the Mediterranean.

Socio-economic networks to be selected should have proof of their past activities at Mediterranean level.

Other actors, who are involved in Mediterranean activities, even if they are not under any of the three categories, shall be given the opportunity to participate in the Commission.

The members representing NGO's should be selected from the list of MAP/NGO partners.

The members should be selected between three NGO categories:

- NGO's with global scope
- NGO's with regional scope
- NGO's with national and local scope

The NGO's to be selected should have intensity and an action oriented approach towards the Mediterranean.

III.5 Duration of Membership

All Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention shall be permanent members of the Commission (21);

Five representatives from each of the three categories (local authorities, socio-economic actors and non-governmental organizations), shall be selected for a duration of four years by the meeting of the Contracting Parties (15);

One third of this group (5) shall be replaced after the first two years.

Additionally, any State which is a member of the United Nations and the specialized agencies, and any other inter-governmental organizations the activities of which are related to the functions of the Commission, may participate in the Commission's work as an observer.

III.6 Relationship with the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development

It can be said that the MCSD has been established as a localized version of the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development (UNCSD). The MCSD undertakes to maintain close relationship with the UNCSD and expresses the will to facilitate the exchange of information and experience.

The Commission, in discharging its functions, takes into account the experience and expertise of the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development, and aims to submit relevant reports to the UN Commission through the Contracting Parties' meetings on any issues that may be of its interest regarding sustainable development in the Mediterranean region.

Furthermore, the Commission and the Contracting Parties utilize the existing reporting system of the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development, with a view to streamlining and avoiding duplication of work.

III.7 Relations with the Specialized Agencies, Intergovernmental Organizations and Non-Governmental Organizations

The Commission, through the Secretariat, strengthens its activities with the relevant United Nations specialized agencies and other inter-governmental bodies within the United Nations System, including international, regional and sub-regional financial and development institutions, in particular regarding

projects for the implementation of the regional Mediterranean strategy related to Agenda MED 21 and the decisions of the Contracting Parties.

The Commission also aims to enhance the dialogue with relevant non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and the independent sector, and receive and analyze their inputs within the context of the overall implementation of the Mediterranean regional strategy for sustainable development.

CHAPTER IV

PRODUCTS and REPORTS by MCSD

IV.1 First Meeting of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD) Rabat, Morocco, 16 - 18 December 1996.

During its first meeting (Rabat 16-18 December 1996), the Commission agreed on a program built around short-term and medium-term activities corresponding to some of the priority needs of the Mediterranean region. Two themes were identified as being areas for action in the short-term because sufficient work had already been undertaken to permit the development of policy and strategy proposals (sustainable management of coastal regions and management of water demand). Other six subjects were identified as medium-term priority themes (sustainable development indicators, tourism, information, awareness and participation, free trade and environment, industry and sustainable development and management of urban and rural development) for which end-products planned for submission to the meeting of Contracting Parties to be held in 1999.

IV.1.1 Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD)(Introductory Report by the Secretariat)

This report was presented to the first meeting of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable development which took place between 16 and 18 December 1996 in Rabat, Morocco.

The report outlines the current status of sustainable development by briefly giving information on the historical background of sustainable development in

the Mediterranean Region, and the major problems of sustainable development in the Mediterranean Region.

Then the report suggests priority fields of activities for environment and development with regional dimension. The report lists all major issues for the environment and development, and then it lists a series of suggestions for each issue. It is important to note that a Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development which would involve all the actors of the region and combine the proposed efforts is defined in this report. Additionally, means for developing this strategy is further detailed.

In the last part, the report defines the methods of work and selection of priority fields of the Commission. First the method of work of the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development (UNCSD) is given and then the function of MCSD is defined as moving forward in effective and efficient implementation of policies and actions, through monitoring and evaluation of implementation assistance where necessary. Lastly, an organizational chart for the internal structure of MCSD is proposed.

IV.1.2 Report of the First Meeting of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development

The first meeting of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development was held at Rabat (Morocco) from 16 to 18 December 1996. This report records the speeches and decisions that took place during the meeting. The proposals of the Introductory Report specified above were also approved during this meeting.

Furthermore the Commission defined 2 short term and 6 long term subjects on which it would focus its attention.

THEMATIC WORKING GROUPS

Themes	Task managers	Members of the group	Support from MAP*
Short-term (over about a one-year period)			
- Sustainable management of coastal zones (completed)	Morocco and MEDCITIES	CREE; European Community, Greece, City of Rome, Spain, EcoMediterrania, Monaco, WWF, Italy, EOAEN, Cyprus, France, Tunisia, MIO-ESCSDE, Egypt, Malta, Albania, Lebanon, Algeria, FIS	RAC/Priority Actions Programme, RAC/Blue Plan, RAC/Environment Remote Sensing and RAC/Specially Protected Areas
- Management of water demand (completed)	Tunisia and Morocco	Libya, WWF, APNEK, European Community, Egypt, Italy, France, CEFIC, MIO-ESCSDE, Malta, Spain, EcoMediterrania, CEDARE, Cyprus, Israel, Algeria, Turkey, Bosnia & Herzegovina	RAC/Blue Plan and RAC/Priority Actions Programme
Medium-term (until 1999 Contracting Parties meeting and beyond)			
- Sustainable development indicators (to be completed in 1999)	France and Tunisia	European Community, Morocco, EcoMediterranean, Greece, Israel, Spain, Slovenia, Turkey, Lebanon, Algeria, Municipality of Silifke	RAC/Blue Plan
- Tourism and Sustainable Development (to be completed in 1999)	Spain, EOAEN and Egypt	Malta, Monaco, Cyprus, Croatia, European Community, Greece, EcoMediterrania, WWF MIO-ESCSDE, ASCAME, Slovenia, Libya, Turkey, Lebanon	RAC/Blue Plan and RAC/Priority Actions Programme
- Information, awareness and participation	MIO-ESCSDE and CREE	European Community, WWF, France, APNEK, Croatia, Egypt, Morocco, MEDCITIES, EcoMediterrania, Albania, Algeria, Libya, Lebanon	MED Coordinating Unit
- Free trade and environment in the Euromediterranean context (strategic impact assessment) (to be completed in 2001)	Lebanon	Tunisia, France, European Community, APNEK, Morocco, MIO-ESCSDE, Algeria, ASCAME, FIS, Bosnia & Herzegovina, WWF	RAC/Blue Plan MED Coordinating Unit
- Industry and sustainable development (cultural, economic, technical and financial aspects of progressive elimination of land-based pollution) (to be completed in 2001)	Italy, Algeria, F.I.D	WWF, Israel, EOAEN, ASCAME, CEFIC, Spain, European Community, Turkey, Tunisia, RME MIO-ESCSDE	MED POL, RAC/Cleaner Production
- Management of urban development (to be completed in 2001)	Egypt, MEDCITIES, Turkey	FIS, MIO-ESCSDE, Spain, Morocco, France, Malta, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Algeria, CEDARE, EC, Slovenia, Cyprus, RME	RAC/Priority Actions Programme and RAC/Blue Plan

FIG. 2; Thematic Working Groups, [11]

IV.2 First Meeting of the Bureau of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD)

During its first meeting (Athens, 20-21 February 1997), the Bureau reviewed the progress achieved in the work of the Task Managers relevant to the two short-term themes, “Sustainable management of coastal regions” and “Management of water demand”.

IV.2.1 The Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development: A Tool for Mediterranean Strategy and a Regional Bridge Between Global and National Levels

This report was presented during the first meeting of the Bureau of the MCSD as the draft report of MCSD to the UNCSD and special session of the Grand Assembly which would take place in New York (April, 1997). It basically gave fundamental information on the nature of the Commission. Furthermore,

IV.2.2 Report of the First Meeting of the Bureau of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD)

At its first meeting, held in Rabat from 16 to 18 December 1996, the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD) set up a Bureau made up of eight members. According to the decisions of this meeting, the Bureau convened on 20 and 21 February 1997 in Athens.

Two preliminary reports were also reviewed during the meeting,

Preliminary report on “Management of water demand”

Preliminary report on “Sustainable management of coastal regions”

IV.3 Second Meeting of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD) Palma de Majorca, Spain, 6 - 8 May 1997.

The Second Meeting of the Commission was held in Palma de Majorca, Spain, on 6-8 May 1997. The Commission reviewed progress achieved and problems encountered since its first meeting. It listened to the various progress and preliminary reports of the Task Managers and made necessary comments and suggestions in order to improve their work.

IV.3.1 Progress Report by the Coordinator (December 1996 - April 1997)

This report is the first progress report to be submitted by the MAP Coordinator in compliance with the Terms of reference of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD). The report covers progress achieved and problems encountered in the implementation of the various decisions taken during the first meeting of the Commission.

The report includes a brief history of the Commission, summary of the first meeting of the Commission and the first meeting of the Bureau of the Commission. Additionally, information on the relation with United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development (UNCSD) is given by explaining the preparation process of the Report of MCSD to the UNCSD.

IV.3.2 Rules of Procedure of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD) (Draft)

This draft incorporated all comments and concrete amendments as proposed during the meeting of the Bureau of the Commission regarding the rules of procedure of the MCSD.

IV.3.3 Report of the Second Meeting of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD)

This report is a record of the issues discussed during the Second Meeting of the MCSD. It contains summarized comments on the preliminary reports by Task Managers for the short and medium term activities.

The following preliminary reports by task managers were submitted during the second meeting of the MCSD:

- Preliminary Report on the Theme: "Sustainable Development Indicators" Task Managers: France and Tunisia
- Preliminary Report on the Theme: "Information, Awareness and Participation" Task Managers: MIO-ECSEDE and CREE
- Preliminary Report on the Theme "Free Trade and Environment in the Euro-Mediterranean Context" Task Managers: Foundation for International Studies (FIS)
- Preliminary Report on the Theme: "Management of Water Demand" Task Managers: Tunisia and Morocco
- Preliminary Report on the Theme: "Sustainable Management of Coastal Zones" Task Managers: Morocco and Medcities
- Preliminary Report on the Theme: "(Eco) Tourism" Task Managers: Spain, EOAEN and Egypt
- Preliminary Report on the Theme: "Industry and Sustainable Development (Cultural, Economic, Technical and Financial Aspects of the Gradual Elimination of Pollution from Land-based Sources)" Task Manager: Italy

- Preliminary Report on the Theme: "Management of Urban and Rural Areas in the Context of Sustainable Development" Task Manager: Egypt

IV.4 Third Meeting of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD) Sophia Antipolis, France, 28 - 30 October 1997.

The third meeting of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development was held in Sophia Antipolis (France) from 28 to 30 October 1997. First the progress report was presented by the Coordinator. Then, Progress Reports by the Task Managers for short term activities were presented. Guidelines for action and draft recommendations concerning these issues were also submitted. [22]

On the short-term themes, i.e. water demand management and the sustainable management of coastal zones, the Commission made a detailed examination of all the analyses drawn up and the recommendations proposed. These were then amended and approved for submission to the Contracting Parties at their tenth ordinary meeting in Tunis in November 1997.

As for the other working groups, the Commission examined progress made and noted the various planned experts meetings and workshops

Preliminary reports by Task Managers for medium term activities were also heard by the commission and it was decided that a one page summary would be prepared by each task manager for the information of the Contracting Parties on the progress of medium term activities.

IV.4.1 Progress Report by the Coordinator (June - September 1997)

The coordinator introduced his progress report on the activities of the Commission since its second meeting. A brief history of the Commission was

followed by information on the past meetings of the Commission and the Bureau of the Commission. Progress reports of Task managers were also summarized. Finally, the relations of the Commission with the UNCSD were related in the last part of the report.

IV.4.2 Report of the Third Meeting of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development

This report is a record of the issues discussed during the Third Meeting of the MCSD. It contains summarized comments on the progress reports and preliminary reports by Task Managers for the short and medium term activities.

IV.5 Fourth Meeting of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD) Monaco, 20 - 22 October 1998.

A new Steering Committee (previously called Bureau) of the MCSD was elected. It composed of 7 members: the President of the Contracting Parties as ex officio member, 3 other members from the Contracting Parties and 1 member from each of the 3 groups: NGOs, Local Authorities and Socio-Economic Actors.

Task Managers for the six medium-term themes introduced their progress reports, including proposals for future program and timetable together with some preliminary recommendations.

Task Managers for the two short-term activities introduced their report, including proposals for implementation and follow-up of recommendations together with related and necessary ways and means.

The fourth MCSD meeting has been the occasion for a large participation of UN agencies and other partners that showed great interest in the work of the

MCSD. The meeting requested the MCSD and its Secretariat to strengthen cooperation with concerned bodies, particularly UNCSD.

IV.5.1 Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (Progress Report by the Coordinator)

The Coordinator introduced his progress report on the activities of the Commission since its third meeting. A brief history of the Commission was followed by information on the past meetings of the Commission.

IV.5.2 Report of the Fourth Meeting of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development

This report is a record of the issues discussed during the Fourth Meeting of the MCSD. It also contains summarized comments on the activity reports by the Task Managers.

IV.5.3 Adopted Recommendations on "Management of Water Demand" and "Sustainable Management of Coastal Zone"

This report contains sets of recommendations for the management of water demand and sustainable management of coastal zone.

IV.6 Second Meeting of the Steering Committee of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD) Tunis, 8 - 9 March 1999.

The second meeting of the Steering Committee of the MCSD was held from 8 to 9 March 1999 in Tunis. The Steering Committee has prepared a series of conclusions to be considered by the fifth MCSD meeting on the following issues:

- Method of work and follow-up of recommendations
- New Themes and their Selection Criteria

- Strategic Review for the year 2000
- Cooperation with the United Nations and national CSDs

IV.6.1 Report by the Secretariat for the Second Meeting of the Steering Committee of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development

As requested by the fourth meeting of the MCSD, the Secretariat prepared a report encompassing mainly issues related to the method of work and follow-up of recommendations, new subjects and selection criteria, preparation of the Strategic review for the year 2000, as well as cooperation with UN and National Commissions on Sustainable Development.

IV.6.2 Report of the Second Meeting of the Steering Committee of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development

This report is a record of the issues discussed during the Second Meeting of the Steering Committee of the MCSD. It also contains the summary of the conclusions of the work of the Committee.

IV.7 Fifth Meeting of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD) Rome, 1 - 3 July 1999.

The fifth meeting of the MCSD agreed on sets of recommendations and proposals for action related to “Sustainable Development Indicators” and “Information, Awareness, Environmental Education and Participation”; the ones related to “Tourism and Sustainable Development” were reviewed and finalized some weeks later; they were then all presented to the 11th meeting of the Contracting Parties (Malta, October 1999) who adopted the three sets of recommendations; moreover, the MCSD members agreed on the set of criteria to be applied for the preparation of pre-feasibility studies for and selection of possible new themes for the next program of work of the MCSD.

The fifth Meeting of the MCSD and the 11th Meeting of the Contracting Parties have discussed aim, organization and method of work for the preparation of the Strategic Review for the year 2000, as agreed upon in the Terms of Reference of the MCSD;

On the occasion of the fifth MCSD meeting, the Executive Director of UNEP expressed his support to MAP and its MCSD, providing a regional forum for dialogue and offering a promising framework for the definition of a genuinely Mediterranean Sustainable Development Strategy.

IV.7.1 Report by the Secretariat on the Activities of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development

This progress report is submitted by the Secretariat of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development in compliance with the Terms of Reference of the MCSD. It covers progress achieved and problems encountered in the implementation of the various decisions taken during previous meetings of the Commission (Rabat, 16-18 December 1996, Palma de Majorca, 6-8 May 1997, Sophia Antipolis, 28-30 October 1997 and Monaco, 20-22 October 1998). Moreover, this progress report is largely based on discussions and conclusions of the second meeting of the Steering Committee (Tunis, 8-9 March 1999), mainly for agenda items 6, 7 and 8.

IV.7.2 Report of the Thematic Working Groups by Task Managers and Support Centers

This report consists of recommendations and proposals for action for review and adoption by the following Thematic Working Groups:

- Indicators of sustainable development in the Mediterranean
- Tourism and sustainable development in the Mediterranean
- Information, awareness, environmental education and public participation
- Free trade and environment

- Industry and sustainable development
- Urban management and sustainable development

IV.7.3 Report of the Fifth meeting of the MCSD

This report is a record of the issues discussed during the Fifth Meeting of the MCSD. It also contains summarized comments on the activity reports by the Task Managers, new subjects and selection criteria and the strategic review for year 2000.

IV.8 Third Meeting of the Steering Committee of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD) Tunis, 20 - 21 January 2000.

The agenda of the third meeting of the Steering Committee of the MCSD included mainly the "Strategic Review for the year 2000". Additionally, selection of new themes for the future program of the MCSD and the relations with the UNCSD were also discussed.

IV.8.1 Report of the Secretariat for the third meeting of the Steering Committee of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD)

The Secretariat prepared a report encompassing mainly issues related to the new subjects and selection criteria, preparation of the Strategic review for the year 2000, as well as cooperation with UN and National Commissions on Sustainable Development. The report included a draft model of the report for "strategic review for the year 200" and also the guidelines for carrying out the actual report.

IV.8.2 Report of the Third Meeting of the Steering Committee of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD)

This report is a record of the issues discussed during the Third Meeting of the Steering Committee of the MCSD. It also contains the summary of the conclusions of the work of the Committee.

IV.9 Fourth Meeting of the Steering Committee of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD) Corfu, 22 - 23 June 2000.

During the third meeting of the Steering Committee it was decided that it would be useful to convene the Steering Committee once more before the sixth meeting of the MCSD because of the importance of this meeting due to the drawing up of the strategic review, preparatory work on the new themes/issues and the organization of the joint meeting with the UN-CSD.

The main purpose of this 4th meeting was to review the progress in the preparation of the Strategic Review for the year 2000 and to discuss the organization of the 6th MCSD meeting in Tunis.

IV.9.1 Report of the Secretariat for the Fourth Meeting of the Steering Committee of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD)

This report sets the basis of discussions and guidelines for the work to be carried out during the fourth meeting of the Steering Committee. As stated above, this report contains updates on the strategic review for the year 2000, progress of the thematic work groups, follow-up of MCSD recommendations, evaluation of new themes, cooperation with the UNCSD and the organization of the sixth meeting of the MCSD.

IV.9.2 Report of the Fourth Meeting of the Steering Committee of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD)

This report is a record of the issues discussed during the Fourth Meeting of the Steering Committee of the MCSD. It also contains the summary of the conclusions of the work of the Committee.

IV.10 Sixth Meeting of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD) Tunis, 14 - 17 November 2000.

At the sixth meeting of the MCSD, the fifteen new members representing the three Major Groups took over and participated to the meeting that was mainly devoted to the examination of the Strategic Review and its recommendations and proposals for action as well as to a draft "Tunis Declaration"; this meeting comprised an important High Level Segment with several Ministers of the Environment; it was also the occasion for a very animated debate on the follow up of MCSD proposals, possible new issues and method of work, preparing the ground for relevant discussions in the next MCSD and Contracting Parties meetings.

IV.10.1 Report by the Secretariat on the Activities of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development

This progress report was submitted by the Secretariat of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development in compliance with the Terms of Reference of the MCSD. It covers progress achieved and problems encountered during the period July 1999 – October 2000 in the implementation of various decisions taken during previous meetings of the Commission as well as the meetings of the Contracting Parties.

IV.10.2 Strategic Review for the year 2000

The Strategic Review was prepared in order to make it possible to assess how the measures agreed upon towards sustainable development have been implemented. The general objective of the Strategic Review was to reveal the degree of success of the countries and MAP and its structures had achieved towards sustainable development.

Specifically the review explored:

- MAP's efforts towards coordination at regional level
- The efforts made by countries at different levels towards sustainability in terms of effective reforms, integration of environmental concerns into development programs

IV.10.3 Prefeasibility Studies for the Selection of new themes

This report contained prefeasibility studies for the selection of new themes, which were:

- Local management and sustainable development
- Desertification and soil erosion
- Energy and transport and sustainable development
- Agriculture and the rural development
- Urban waste management and consumption and production patterns
- Health and the environment
- Combating poverty
- Major Natural Hazards
- International co-operation towards sustainable development

IV.10.4 Report of the Sixth Meeting of the MCSD

This report is a record of the issues discussed during the Sixth Meeting of the MCSD. It also contained recommendations and proposals for action regarding the strategic review for the year 2000, and a draft declaration for the consideration of the Contracting Parties.

IV.11 Fifth Meeting of the Steering Committee of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD) Monaco, 18 - 19 May 2001

The main issues on the agenda of this 5th meeting were:

- To review, discuss and advise on the follow up of the Strategic Review;
- To discuss and orient the preparatory process and the elaboration of a guiding framework for a Regional Sustainable Development Strategy; and,
- To review and discuss the preparatory process for a “strategy”/guidelines for implementation and follow up of the MCSD proposals, in conformity with the decision of the Contracting Parties at their 11th meeting.

As it is the case for all the previous meetings of the Steering Committee, a set of conclusions and decisions were reviewed and adopted at the closure of the meeting.

IV.11.1 Report of the Secretariat for the Fifth meeting of the Steering Committee of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MSCD)

This report sets the basis of discussions and guidelines for the work to be carried out during the fifth meeting of the Steering Committee.

As stated above, this report contains updates on the follow-up of the strategic review for the year 2000, strategic orientations for regional sustainable development, implementation and follow-up of MCSD recommendations, progress of the thematic working groups and the organization of the seventh meeting of the MCSD.

IV.11.2 Report of the Fifth Meeting of the Steering Committee of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MSCD)

This report is a record of the issues discussed during the Fifth Meeting of the Steering Committee of the MCSD. It also contains the summary of the conclusions of the work of the Committee.

IV.12 Extraordinary Meeting of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD) Monaco, 12 November 2001

The first Extraordinary Meeting (Monaco, 12 November 2001) of the MCSD was organized because of the international context and the holding of the 12th meeting of the Contracting Parties (Monaco, 14-17 November 2001).

The main objective for holding this Extraordinary MCSD meeting was to review the findings and conclusions of the last three Thematic Working Groups, together with the general issue of the implementation and follow up of the recommendations, and present their proposals to the 12th meeting of the Contracting Parties.

During the meeting the MCSD members discussed and prepared four sets of findings and proposals related to: "Industry and Sustainable development", "Urban management and Sustainable Development", "Free Trade and Environment in the Euro-Mediterranean context", and "Implementation and Follow up of MCSD recommendations and proposals for action"; proposed

recommendations were then reviewed and approved by the 12th meeting of the Contracting Parties.

Moreover, considering that the mandate of the present MCSD members representing the three Major Groups would expire before the 8th meeting of the MCSD, fifteen new members were selected by the Contracting Parties.

IV.13 Seventh Meeting of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD) Antalya, 13 - 16 March, 2002

The Seventh meeting of the MCSD (Antalya, March 2002) was postponed from October 2001 to March 2002 because of the international context and its impacts at the regional level; as the thematic issues from the Working Groups, and from which a set of recommendations were prepared, were dealt with by the Extraordinary MCSD meeting that had just preceded the 12th Conference of the Contracting Parties, the 7th MCSD has mostly focused on MCSD Assessment and Prospects, and the “Framework Orientations” for a Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development. The meeting agreed on a methodology for the “Orientations”, decided to establish a Task Force to consider further MCSD Prospects, recommend the organization of regional forums, opted for few new themes (financing, agriculture, consumption patterns and waste) and advised on activities related to other issues (such as tourism, historic sites, water, free trade and local governance).

IV.13.1 Report by the Secretariat on the Activities of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (December 2000 - February 2002)

This progress report was submitted by the Secretariat of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD) in compliance with its Terms of Reference. It covers progress in the implementation of various decisions taken by the MCSD and its Steering Committee as well as the Contracting Parties, during the period November 2000 - February 2002.

IV.13.2 Proposed new issues and follow up of previous themes for the work program of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development

This report contained feasibility studies for the proposed new issues as well as the follow up of previous themes. Main sections of the report were as follows:

- Free Trade and Environment in the Euro-Mediterranean context, (recommendations adopted by the Contracting Parties)
- Feasibility study for the MCSD: Agriculture and rural development in the Mediterranean region
- Feasibility study for the MCSD: Consumption patterns and Urban Waste Management
- Feasibility study for the MCSD: Capital Markets and Cooperation for Sustainable Development
- Follow-up of the MCSD work on Water
- Feasibility study for the MCSD: Local Governance
- Proposal for the establishment of a Regional Activity Center (Rac/Et) On Ecotourism In Mediterranean University in Antalya, Turkey
- Cultural Heritage and Sustainable Development: Introductory Paper to the New Programme

IV.13.3 Report of the Seventh Meeting of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD)

This report is a record of the issues discussed during the Seventh Meeting of the MCSD. It also contained recommendations related to MCSD assessment and prospects.

IV.14 Eighth Meeting of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD) Cavtat, Croatia, 14 - 16 May 2003

In addition to the thematic issues and, as appropriate, their related findings and proposals, the agenda of the 8th MCSD meeting focused on:

- The World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD), its Plan of Implementation and its application to the Mediterranean level
- The “Framework Orientations” for a Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development; the review of the draft report and identification of further steps
- The Assessment of and the Prospects for the MCSD; the review of the draft report and proposals from the Task Force, and recommendations on next steps.

IV.14.1 Report by the Secretariat on the Activities of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (March 2002 - April 2003)

This progress report was submitted by the Secretariat of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD) in compliance with its Terms of Reference. It covers progress in the implementation of various decisions taken by the MCSD and its Steering Committee as well as the Contracting Parties, during the period March 2002 – April 2003.

This report also contained highlights from WSSD, draft Vision for Sustainable Development in the Mediterranean and draft Framework Orientations for a Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development.

IV.14.2 Report of the Eighth Meeting of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD)

This report is a record of the issues discussed during the Eighth Meeting of the MCSD. It also contained guidelines of the MCSD on the preparation of a Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD) [55].

CHAPTER V

EVALUATION OF THE WORK CARRIED OUT BY THEMATIC WORKING GROUP ON SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF COASTAL AREAS

During the first meeting of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development held in Rabat from the 16th to the 18th December 1996, it was decided to set up thematic working groups, which would focus on a limited number of subjects for specific periods of time. One of these working groups, which would study the sustainable development of coastal areas, had to commence its work as soon as possible, because sufficient work had already been carried out to allow the formulation of policy and strategy proposals to be submitted to the third meeting of the Commission.

This chapter will concentrate on the work carried out by this working group in order to better evaluate the mechanism of the MCSD. A more in depth look at the issue of Coastal Management through the perspective of MCSD that prioritizes sustainability and implementation will be tracked throughout the process and products of this working group.

In the introductory report that was presented by the secretariat during the first meeting of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development in 1996, the degradation caused by the pressures on the coastal environment were listed. These pressures were the results of ever increasing human activity on the coasts. Consequently, the reflection of the degradation of the coastal environment back on the sociosphere and the socio-economic pressures caused by this reflection were pointed out. The report outlined this process as follows:

The Mediterranean coasts have attracted people for thousands of years. However, in the last 50 years, this attraction has become more intense than ever. This concentration, called "littoralisation", is regarded as the most serious obstacle before the sustainability of coastal areas.

Littoralisation mostly followed industrialization in the north half of the Mediterranean. However, in the south, reinforced by the strong presence of the desert and shorter length of coastlines, littoralisation even precedes the industrialization of the coastal and is even harder to control.

Along with the demographic boom caused by littoralisation and urbanization, two other kinds of pressures are noted by the report:

Tourism: its concentration on the coast is practically irreversible

Industry and energy: larger sectors of which in big plants is already locate on the coast, with ever-increasing trend in the same direction.

Main pressures of human activities on the coastal environment are summarized as:

Population: Demand for urban habitats

Urbanization: Concentration of living and various activities (littoralisation)

Agriculture and food industry: Changes in land use (clearing, drainage etc)

Industry: Use of available space and altering the landscape.

Environmental degradation caused by these pressures:

Forests: Land clearing

Soils: Loss of productivity

Water: Concentration of pollutant load and solid wastes

Biodiversity: Ecosystem destruction

Air: Concentration of pollution sources

Marine resources: Disturbance of ecological equilibrium

Reflection of the environmental degradation on the sociosphere:

Health/Population: Excessive population density causing violence and stress

Urbanization: Degradation of living framework

Agriculture and food industry: Speculation on farmland and disappearance of traditional farming.

Industry: Increased industrial concentration

Energy: Reinforcement of energy potential

Transport: Congested infrastructure

Tourism: Fewer visits.

In the light of these findings, following points are stressed for the integrated management of coastal areas and conservation of landscapes and sites

- Developing appropriate measures and techniques, in particular the remote sensing, for integrated coastal management and the protection of coasts
- Building up in each country the capacity in these areas through training
- Designing and implementing programs on coastal area management, especially in pilot areas. (Rabat, 1996)

During the first meeting of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development, a wide-ranging discussion of many themes of great importance for the sustainable development of Mediterranean region, the Commission identified eight subjects on which it would focus its attention. Sustainable management of coastal zones was identified as an area for action in the short term because sufficient work had already been undertaken to permit the development of policy and strategy proposals in time to be submitted to the third meeting of the MCSD. It was also mentioned that theme should have a particular reference to strategic and policy-making aspects.

Thematic working groups were formed for each of the eight subjects identified by the Commission. The task managers who would lead the working group ON Sustainable Management of Coastal Zones were selected as Morocco and MEDCITIES. The composition of the group was as follows:

Task Managers:

- Morocco
- MEDCITIES

Members:

- CREE
- European Community
- Greece
- City of Rome
- Spain
- EcoMediterrania
- Monaco
- WWF
- Italy
- EOAEN
- Cyprus
- France
- Tunisia
- MIO-ESCDE
- Egypt
- Malta
- Albania
- Lebanon
- Algeria
- FIS

Additionally, the following Regional Activity Centers would provide the necessary support to the working group:

RAC / Priority Actions Program

RAC / Blue Plan

RAC / Environment Remote Sensing

RAC / Specially Protected Areas

The working group consisting of the above-mentioned composition was asked to prepare a preliminary report to be presented during the second meeting of the MCSD. The task manager presented the activities undertaken to prepare this preliminary report to the first meeting of the bureau of the MCSD, which took place two months after the initiation of the working group. Therefore, the points on which the task manager focused may be regarded as the basic attitude of the working group on the subject of coastal management. The task manager focused on the following points:

- Better distribution of space among the various users and actors
- Links between hinterland and coast
- Certain activities (tourism etc) to become more environmental friendly
- Development of methodological tools for planning and control (observatories, impact studies, follow-up, and assessment) along with the relevant indicators
- Preparation of adequate legislative and regulatory tools
- Public awareness activities in order to achieve a common vision.

Following comments were made by the members of the Bureau of the MCSD on the main points of the report of task manager:

- The concept of sustainability is fundamental in the context of the group's activities
- The very large documentation available on this theme should be used as much as possible, while also taking into account the various experiences either past or on-going

- It would be useful to launch several demonstration projects, on the basis of criteria to be determined by the working group. Such projects would require the cooperation of all involved in order to draw useful and practical lessons
- Recommendations for contingency measures (prevention or interim) for the degraded areas and preventive measures (medium and long-term) for the areas still relatively unspoilt

V.1. Preliminary Report on the Theme: “Sustainable Management of Coastal Zones”

The preliminary report of the working Group was submitted to the Second Meeting of the MCSD which was held on 6-8 May 1997, in Spain. Terms of reference were drawn for the preparation of the synthesis report on the issue. The working group had respected the initial criterion of building on previous work in order to provide added value. An effort had been made to evaluate past experience and to propose practical lines of action.

The future schedule of work involved discussion of the draft report of the working group, finalization of the text and its presentation to the Commission for validation at its third meeting.

V.2. Framework Document: “Sustainable Development for Mediterranean Coastal Areas”

In order to build on past experiences and previous works, the working group appointed an expert to carry out a framework document on the state of policies and strategies in respect of integrated management of the coastal areas. The terms of reference for this report were drawn in the Preliminary Report.

Mr. H.N Coccossis, the consultant appointed by the working Group, prepared the document entitled “Sustainable Development for Mediterranean Coastal Areas”.

The report stated that the adoption of a common strategy had become imperative. In most cases, coastal management developed around key issues, such as the preservation of sand dunes or the upgrading of tourism, with the result that programs were not fully integrated. Some of the reasons for failure were inadequate information and coordination, the limited range of regulatory instruments and unsatisfactory policy implementation. Multi-sectoral approach required by ICAM was usually lacking. Although some significant progress had been made, a more effective policy and greater awareness and training were necessary.

The report stressed the fact that implementation of policy actions was the essential element of achieving a high efficiency of integrated coastal area management.

V.3 International Workshop on Integrated and Sustainable Management of Coastal Zones

The working group decided to organize a conclusive workshop to discuss practical and concrete proposals for measures aimed at improving and enhancing the sustainable management of Mediterranean coastal zones. Those measures would be proposed for adoption by the members of the MCSD and the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention. It was agreed to focus the workshop on the most important issues for the implementation of the working group theme, sustainable management of coastal zones.

The Benidorm Workshop was organized by the Spanish NGO EcoMediterrania with financial and organizational help of PAP/RAC and the

Savings Bank for the Mediterranean (Caja de Ahorros del Mediterraneo – CAM).

The Workshop was attended by 32 experts from 12 countries (Albania, Cyprus, Egypt, France, Greece, Italy, Monaco, Malta, Spain, Tunisia, United Kingdom), as well as from MAP, EcoMediterrania and CAM. The purpose of the Workshop was announced as:

To discuss and adopt the paper prepared within the work of the group, and to take a general position regarding the strategies and policies of sustainable management of coastal areas

To define the most important issues with regard to the implementation of the sustainable development of the Mediterranean coastal areas

To propose concrete measures aimed at improving the implementation of coastal area management plans in the Mediterranean, especially with regard to the national, regional and local levels, and the role of the civil society.

In accordance with the objectives, two working groups were formed during the workshop and each group tried to come up with answers to the following questions:

How to increase national, regional and local efforts to match the international initiative in the integrated and sustainable coastal zone management?

How to increase the initiatives of the civil society in the integrated and sustainable coastal zone management?

The results of the debates that took place within the two sub-groups were formulated into recommended policy actions for the members of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development.

Regarding the first question, all participants agreed that the national, regional and local efforts could be improved to match the international initiatives in the integrated and sustainable coastal zone management. In order to achieve this, following recommendations were proposed:

- (i) To improve the institutional framework
- (ii) To introduce stricter and more specific legislative and regulatory measures
- (iii) To make law enforcement more efficient
- (iv) To structure and disseminate information and knowledge
- (v) To increase the use of financial instruments
- (vi) To promote and encourage concrete projects of sustainable management of coastal areas

Additionally, a number of tools were proposed for each of these recommendations.

Regarding the second question, the participants concluded that the role of the civil society is very important in the context of sustainable development of coastal zones.

The main objective should be to increase the participation of various groups such as syndicates, NGO's, research centers and universities in the integrated and sustainable management of the coastal zones.

The role of the society is expressed through democratic debate, harmonization, cooperation and participation. It is exercised through information, awareness rising, training, management of projects and programs and mobilization of resources. In the light of these principles the following were proposed to the MCSD members:

- (i) To develop institutional instruments necessary for harmonization (polls, surveys, coastal committees, environmental councils etc)

- (ii) To introduce the civil society into the decision-making process
- (iii) To prepare a guide of good practices for integrated coastal management
- (iv) To prepare periodical reports on the state of coastal environment and the evaluation of integrated coastal management practices instruments, with the assistance of civil society actors
- (v) To promote and stimulate creation of new forms of partnership between the civil society and other interested parties in order to encourage the introduction and implementation of innovative ideas
- (vi) To encourage the cooperation which not only allows for exchange of experience but also improves and promotes structuring of the civil society for the implementation of ICAM programs and projects
- (vii) Encourage networking of the civil society actors involved with ICAM in order to facilitate the establishment of identified mediators and structuring of priorities for decision-making at local, regional, national and international levels.

The results of the Benidorm Workshop were presented to the third meeting of the MCSD, which took place between 28 and 30 October 1997. The recommendations were welcomed by the Commission and they were widely discussed on. Members of the Commission expressed their concerns or objections on various points. Taking into consideration the results of the Benidorm workshop and the comments of the members of the Commission, the MCSD adopted a document to be transmitted to the Contracting Parties.

These recommendations were outlined as follows:

- (i) To improve institutional mechanisms for the integrated management of coastal areas by creating if necessary and/or strengthening inter-ministerial or inter-administrative structures and frameworks for the coordination of the actors involved in coastal development and management and the integration of their activities.

Such structures should be set up at the level relevant to each country (national, regional, local).

Local and regional authorities should be invited to play a significant role in the preparation of integrated coastal management strategies.

- (ii) To establish or strengthen and enforce legislative and regulatory instruments:
- On the regional scale, to prepare guidelines for implementing appropriate national legal instruments.
 - On the national scale, the legislative instruments should:
 - define the coastal areas concerned;
 - require that for all coastal areas subject to development pressures, management plans be prepared;
 - ensure that management plans be accompanied by environmental impact studies;
 - establish regulations for development and protection to promote sustainable management of coastal areas including regulations on the protection of sites of ecological and landscape value on preventing dispersed urban development, or development too close to the shore and on ensuring proper provision of environmental infrastructure for areas already urbanized.
 - Until regional or local development plans are in force, conservation provisions to protect natural and coastal areas should be adopted and implemented.

- Finally, provisions should be made to ensure the implementation of the foregoing provisions; to that effect:

the organizations responsible for coastal development and protection should be strengthened; staff should receive appropriate training as needed;

effective law enforcement mechanisms should be provided or strengthened;

when necessary and with respect to national conditions, court action should be made easier everywhere to oppose planning decisions;

an efficient system for liability and sanctions should be established.

- (iii) To ensure access to information in order to raise awareness and training for the largest possible number of actors. Capitalizing on and disseminating information should be encouraged through exchanges of experience and transfer of know-how by making use of MAP structures.
- (iv) To establish appropriate systems of incentives for the integrated management of coastal areas by developing economic, financial and tax instruments which would ensure that the costs of the protection and management of natural areas would be linked to as well as balanced by the financial resources generated by development. Funds from multilateral services, bilateral cooperation and domestic resources should be better coordinated.
- (v) To develop with the support of relevant international organizations and of the European Union, practical pilot projects in the field of coastal areas management and disseminate the results.

Priority should be given to projects concerned with:

coastal areas subject to potential or actual conflicting uses;
other areas of environmental, economic or social significance
like islands and deltas.

- (vi) The role of the public is very important within the context of sustainable development of coastal areas, according to a principle of joint responsibility which should be encouraged. The main object is to increase opportunities and improve the effectiveness of active public participation.

to that effect, participation mechanisms, such as advisory committees, public enquiries and hearings and actual participation in the management should be developed.

the MCSD further proposes:

setting up good practice guidelines on the integrated management of coastal areas;
drafting a regular report on the state of the environment of coastal areas; and putting assessment tools in place with the support of public stakeholders;
developing new forms of partnership between the public and other stakeholders to encourage innovative ideas;
inviting the public to participate in the decision-making processes;
strengthening the cooperation which promotes exchange of experience and adds incentives for the public to implement integrated management programmes and projects for coastal areas.

National, regional and local strategies and Mediterranean partnerships should be promoted in order to ensure a sustainable management of coastal areas.

The MCSD Working Group on Sustainable Management of Coastal Zones had the task to provide concrete proposals to the Commission to take specific measures and actions to improve the performance of ICAM in the region with the aim of achieving the sustainable development of the coastal areas.

As it was stated on the synthesis report of the expert appointed by the working group many actions have been taken with the objective of achieving sustainable development in the region's coastal areas, with special reference to the implementation of ICAM. It is possible to see examples of these efforts at the political and practical levels. Although in a number of cases significant progress has been made, the full integration between sectors, stakeholders, administrative levels and plans have not been achieved. In most cases the formulation of programs, plans and policies have proved to be easier than their implementation.

The Working Group carried out its activities with the objective of providing regional countries with advice on how to implement the ICAM process more effectively. Since the implementation component had been identified as the weakest link in the ICAM process, the Working Group tried to concentrate on this pressing issue.

The thematic Working Group on sustainable management of coastal zones consisted of mainly representatives from Ministries of Environment of the Contracting Parties and environmental NGO's. While this arrangement may be viewed as acceptable for identification of problems and expressing desired situations, it leads to a one dimensional composition that lacks the necessary transparency and participation.

Members of the Working Group	Participating Institution
Morocco	Ministry of Environment
MEDCITIES	MEDCITIES Network
CREE	Centre of Euro-Mediterranean Regions for Environment
European Community	Directorate of Environment
Greece	Ministry of the Environment, Physical Planning and Public Works
City of Rome	City of Rome
Spain	Ministry of Environment
EcoMediterrania	Environmental NGO
Monaco	Environmental Service
WWF	Worldwide Fund for Nature
Italy	Ministry of Environment
EOAEN	Chambers Group for the Development of Greek Islands
Cyprus	Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment
France	Ministry of Environment
Tunisia	Ministry of Environment
MIO-ESCDE	Mediterranean Information Office for Environment Culture and Sustainable Development
Egypt	Coastal Research Institute
Malta	Environment Protection Department / Coastal Zone Management Unit
Albania	Ministry of Health and Environment / Nature Conservation Department
Lebanon	Ministry of Environment
Algeria	Ministry of Interior / Directorate of Environment
FIS	Foundation for Environmental Studies

FIG. 3 Composition of the Thematic Working Group on Sustainable Development of Coastal Areas

The representation of the academic community that has been working on ICAM for a very long time is not sufficiently enabled. Consequently, the transfer of experience from the already carried out works have been limited and indirect.

This lack of participation can be seen upon the comparison of the above-mentioned guidelines with the “Guidelines for Integrated Management of Coastal and Marine Areas: with special reference to the Mediterranean Basin”, which was published by PAP/RAC in 1994. This document suggests that integrated management of coastal areas is required to lay the foundation for sustainable development which will reduce or eliminate pollution, rectify other impacts, and prevent these occurring in the future. The objective of the document is to set the guidelines for such an integrated management. It is addressed in the first place to national policy makers who need to provide the necessary political will, who can create the administrative and legislative framework and who can generate the financial means to set up and operate integrated management. It also offers sufficient guidance for the authorities responsible for implementing policy in a specific coastal area (1994, guidelines).

The work carried out by the Working Group and the output report containing recommendations is a broader repetition of the PAP/RAC Guidelines of 1994. While the fact that these recommendations are adopted by the contracting parties is meaningful, the whole process leading to this output may still be viewed as a repetition of the earlier work.

The recommendations of the Working Group and the MCSD are the basic general points that are almost universally agreed on. The MCSD, despite its aim to be an implementation oriented body, moves away from its purpose by repeating earlier work and failing to bring new perspectives towards the implementation aspect of this important issue.

Sectoral inputs	Stages	Phases	Activities	Outputs	Political decisions
Triggers: past decisions, new decisions, external influences	INITIATION	<i>INITIATION OF ICAM</i>	Analysis of prerequisites for ICAM Tentative boundaries of the area Preparation of the proposal for initiation of ICAM	Proposal for the preparatory phase of ICAM	To start ICAM
Sectoral Problem identification		<i>PREPARATORY ACTIVITIES</i>	Definition of coastal area. Identification of sectoral and cross sectoral problems. Proposal for general goals and objectives Preparation of development environment, outlooks and tentative strategy. Identification of information gaps. Definition of legal financial and institutional requirements for ICAM Proposal for integrated Coastal Master Plan preparation procedure.	Coastal Profile. ICAM programme.	To establish ICAM as a continuous and long term process
Sectoral analysis and forecasting	PLANNING	<i>ANALYSIS AND FORECASTING</i>	Issue - oriented new surveys (generation of missing primary data) Analysis of natural and socio economic systems. Forecasting of future demand. Generation of cross sectoral scenario and selection of preferred scenario.	Alternative scenario	
Definition of sectoral goals and strategies		<i>DEFINITION OF GOALS AND STRATEGIES</i>	Proposal for sectoral and cross sectoral goals and objectives. Preparation of alternative strategies including, legal requirements, financial implications and institutional arrangements. Evaluation and selection of strategy.	Management strategy	Approval of goals objectives and strategies
Sectoral plans	IMPLEMENTATION	<i>INTEGRATION OF DETAILED PLANS</i>	Allocation of land and sea uses Proposal for implementation procedures (legal, institutional, financial) and relevant instruments (EIA, CBA, etc) Definition of implementation stages Draft Integrated Coastal Master Plan presented to relevant body for approval	Integrated Coastal Master Plan	Adoption of Integrated Coastal Master Plan and relevant policies
Sectoral plans and policies		<i>IMPLEMENTATION OF PLANS</i>	Phasing of ICAM proposals and policies. Application of economic, regulatory, and environmental evaluation instruments in development control	EIA CBA	Approval of implementation instruments used in the development control process
Sectoral monitoring		<i>MONITORING AND EVALUATION</i>	Adaptation of institutions to ICAM. Re-definition of cross sectoral problems Identification of inadequacy of instruments	Evaluation study	Update of ICAM process

FIG. 4; ICAM Model Defined by PAP/ RAC in 1994, [59]

CHAPTER VI

MEDITERRANEAN STRATEGY FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

According to its terms of reference, which were defined during its initiation, the MCSD was going to “assist the Contracting Parties by making proposals on the formulation and implementation of a regional strategy for sustainable development in the Mediterranean”. Taking into account the Strategic Review for year 2000 which was presented to the 6th meeting of the MCSD, it was decided that sufficient background work was carried out in order to prepare a Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development.

Within the recommendations and proposals for action specified in the Strategic Review for the Year 2000, the Contracting parties to the Barcelona Convention were invited to define a common vision of the region’s future along with all of the partners concerned. For this purpose, they were invited within the framework of MAP and with all the partners concerned, to prepare a Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development. This Strategy had to reflect a responsible acceptance of the medium and long-term stakes and clear commitment and solidarity at all levels (regional, national, local) and in all sectors (economic, social, and environmental).

Accordingly, such a strategy should:

- Take account of the diversity of existing political, social, economic, cultural and environmental systems
- Allow States and Local Authorities to play their full role
- Respect the multiple values of Mediterranean societies
- Draw on all elements of Society

- Promote social equity
- Ensure respect for the integrity of eco-systems
- Apply a participatory approach
- Identify and promote adequate methodologies and tools
- Promote the transfer and mastery of cleaner technologies
- Promote bilateral and regional cooperation
- Take due account of the principle of common but differentiated responsibility
- Encourage complementarities and synergies with other relevant programs
- Express at the Mediterranean level the aims and proposals for action laid down by major global conventions, particularly on climate change, biodiversity, desertification etc., as well as the UN-CSD's recommendations
- Facilitate implementation of the Barcelona Convention, its protocols and MAP recommendations
- Build the required capacities to meet the above-mentioned objectives effectively

Additionally, the Regional Strategy should pay particular attention to the implementation of recommendations and proposals for action adopted or to be adopted within the MCSD framework, establishing clear objectives and adequate means.

The next step was to prepare a strategic framework document that would be submitted to the 7th MCSD meeting.

It was emphasized that the most crucial challenge for the Mediterranean Strategy was to present Sustainable Development as a set of principles which are relevant to all Mediterranean partners in guiding future action and practical policies at local, national and regional levels.

Moving towards Sustainable Development would mean major transformations and structural changes in economic, social, environmental and political sectors. Therefore, it is stated that pursuing Sustainable Development is essentially a task of transforming governance. Preparing and implementing Sustainable Development strategy would be a test case for good governance.

Even though Sustainable Development concerns all areas of economic, social, environmental and political life, the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development would better focus on a small number of most critical problems in order to be more effective and avoid the gap between ambitious vision and practical success.

In order to ensure the efficiency of the Strategy, the following basic guidelines for action were proposed:

- Allowing States to play their full role and encouraging the emerging role of local authorities
- Drawing on all elements of Society
- Working towards economic and social justice and taking national culture and values into account
- Promoting scientific activity and technological achievement
- Building / strengthening human resources and institutional capacity

The national and regional reforms would be more beneficial and desirable if their impact would encourage growth, reduce poverty, protect environment and reduce income inequality. Therefore, the reforms and decisions should aim for efficiency in terms of rationalizing the economic activity, equity in terms of social justice and shared well-being and preserving the natural resource base in terms of recovering the real cost of their use.

Three most important key issues, or pillars as the report refers to them, are specified as “environment and natural resources issues”, “economic

development and social equity” and “governance, political and institutional issues”.

These “pillars” were the main influences of the preparation process of the visions and orientation of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development.

The following preparatory process for the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development was proposed:

- Discussion of the framework orientation by the 7th MCSD meeting
- Defining and agreeing on a common and comprehensive Mediterranean vision for Sustainable Development
- Defining and agreeing on major "orientations" for a Mediterranean Sustainable Development Strategy
- Defining a minimum set of guiding principles for the elaboration of the "Orientations" and then the Strategy
- Defining a minimum set of criteria for the selection of a limited number of the most pressing problems, so as to make the concept of Sustainable Development more operational

A group of qualified experts were going to prepare the "Orientations" for a Mediterranean Sustainable Development Strategy, giving due consideration to above advices and decisions. Additionally, a major workshop would be organized to review and finalize these "Orientations" and agree on a detailed table of contents for the Mediterranean Sustainable Development Strategy with relevant program of work in view of producing a preliminary draft.

Following the discussions, and the decisions of the 7th meeting of the MCSD, the Secretariat has reviewed and finalized the terms of references for the preparation of the Strategy Orientations. Considering available human and financial resources together with the provisional timetable for the elaboration

process for the Mediterranean Strategy, three qualified experts were finally identified in May 2002.

The three experts that have been identified were:

- Mr. Magdi Ibrahim, Director of ENDA-Environment and Development Maghreb, for the “Environment and Natural Resources” component
- Mr. Azzam Mahjoub, Professor of Economics in Tunis and member of the team of experts for the National Sustainable Development Strategy of Tunisia, for the “Economic Development and Social Equity”
- Mr. Juan Prats, Director of the International Institute for Governance in Barcelona, for the “Governance, Political and Institutional issues”

The first drafts of the three thematic framework papers were presented to the 6th meeting of the MCSD Steering Committee. The Steering Committee considered that these documents constitute a good working basis for further steps, including their review and use in the preparatory process for the sustainable development strategy, a series of conclusions and recommendations were agreed upon.

Revised drafts were prepared and submitted as working documents to the major workshop on “Orientations for the Mediterranean Sustainable Development Strategy” which was organized in Barcelona, on 13-15 March 2003. The experts, around 50, have discussed the contents of these reports and defined a set of stakes and priorities on which to structure the Orientations and then the regional strategy.

Following the discussions during the workshop, where diagnostic issues, stakes and challenges, external and internal parameters, vision and fields of activities were defined and generally agreed upon, two draft documents on “Mediterranean Vision of Sustainable Development” and “Orientations for a Mediterranean Sustainable Development Strategy” were prepared.

These two reports were reviewed and revised by the restricted meeting of experts, which took place on 15-16 April 2003 and submitted to the 8th meeting of the MCSD.

Following the discussions that took place during the 8th meeting of the MCSD, the Secretariat prepared a report titled "Preparation for a Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development: Vision and Orientation" to be submitted to the 13th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution.

VI.1. Mediterranean Vision for Sustainable Development

Although the Contracting Parties and other partners in the MAP and MCSD framework had been progressively moving towards the promotion of sustainable development through an integrated approach that incorporated economic and social concerns, little progress had yet been made in the region in the implementation of this approach in practice. Moreover, environmental, economic and social difficulties had been increased by the high short-term costs of economic liberalization and integration into global markets. A strategic regional framework, based on a shared vision for sustainable development in the Mediterranean, was therefore needed to provide a basis for cooperation between the countries and partners concerned to build and maintain a shared future.

During the discussions of the 8th meeting of the MCSD, it was stated that there was a feeling of belonging to the same community and of a shared destiny, as well as the hope of a better future based on co-development and mutual trust between the various parts of the Mediterranean. This presupposed a shared vision of the future and a willingness to cooperate in the context of an effective consensual process. Such a vision needed to be strategic and express the long-term aspirations of all the stakeholders. It therefore had to go beyond national frontiers and set forth the objective of an

eco-region that was more diversified and in which the environment was healthy, natural diversity protected and there was greater prosperity, more democracy and the common cultural heritage was cherished. However, current development in the region was far from being sustainable. The vision was therefore an invitation for intervention at the political level with a view to undertaking reforms, assuming responsibilities, developing new ideas and discussing economic solutions.

The outline and the major components of the Vision were defined during the workshop on strategic orientations. This vision was structured on a series of challenges for the Mediterranean Sustainable Development and provided rational and coherent framework for a Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development.

In the document submitted to the 13th meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention the following statement regarding the Mediterranean vision for sustainable development:

“Our vision of the future should be an ecoregion that is developing while at the same time becoming more diversified, a region whose environment is healthy, whose natural diversity is protected, a region where there is greater prosperity and more democracy and where the common cultural heritage is cherished.”

There were five major challenges, equally important and inter-related, that originate from the region’s geographical, political and cultural features. These are:

1. The challenge of development and environmental protection, towards a common Environmental Vision
2. The challenge of poverty and inequality, towards a common Social Vision

3. The challenge of innovation and economic entrepreneurship, towards a more dynamic Entrepreneurial Vision
4. The challenge of cultural diversity, towards a common Cultural Vision
5. The challenge of governance, towards a common Ethical Vision

Facing up these challenges in a satisfactory, efficient and sustainable manner requires long-lasting peace and security in the Mediterranean Region and between its countries and people. The future of the region calls for mutually guaranteed security between countries that would constitute an efficient and well-accepted balance backed up by a clear commitment to common Peace and Security Vision.

VI.2 Framework Orientations for a Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development

The framework orientations have been progressively developed in the context of MAP and MCSD through various studies and workshops. The orientations have been grouped under 5 parts:

VI.2.1. Part I: Diagnostic of Mediterranean Economic and Social Imbalances and Its Consequences on the Overall Physical and Human Resources

Part I constitutes a synthesis of the various diagnostic studies prepared by the MCSD experts on natural resources, economic development and social equity, and on governance. It has taken into consideration the outcome of discussions held at the Barcelona Workshop (March 2003) and observations made by representatives of member States and Partners from Major Groups at the 8th meeting of the Commission held in Croatia in May 2003.

It emphasizes on the asymmetry existing between the different parts of the Mediterranean Region, financial distress and insufficient financial flows, the common ecological problems and governance issues.

VI.2.2. Part II. Identification of the Main Challenges

Based on this overall diagnostic of the Mediterranean situation, Part II of the framework proceeds with defining the main challenges facing the Mediterranean region (multiplication of conflicts, increasing gap between the northern part of the Mediterranean region and its southern and eastern parts, trade liberalization and globalization, increasing sources of pollution). The main elements of the Vision Document are considered to be the appropriate support from which to define the main objectives of sustainable development policies in the region.

Additionally, specific sub-challenges such as globalization, poverty and illiteracy, reforming the education sector, competitiveness in the private sector, improving the management of natural resources and reducing the sources of pollution were identified.

VI.2.3. Part III. Identification and Involvement of the Actors and Stakeholders Needed to Secure SD in the Mediterranean Region

Part III of the framework identifies and describes the main actors and stakeholders of a sustainable development process in the Mediterranean region (local bodies, NGOs, private and public sector companies, education institutions, professional bodies). The mobilization of such stakeholders and the implementation of governance principles on their behavior are key ingredients to implement successfully new policies conducive to sustainable development.

VI.2.4. Part IV. Areas for Priority Actions

The framework, then, continues in Part IV to define the priority sectors where energetic intervention is needed to stop environmental degradation and wastage (water, transport, energy, urban and coastal developments) and to

eradicate poverty, including progress in education, health and gender equilibrium.

VI.2.5. Part V. Institutional and Financial Means Needed to Face the Challenges

The last part of the orientations, Part V, is devoted to identifying institutional and financial means needed to face the challenges and reach the objectives defined.

Solid proposals are made on capacity building and awareness, institutionalizing sustainable development agreements between various actors and stakeholders and mobilization of regional partners, mobilization of financial means and adapting development assistance to the needs of sustainable development.

The “Framework Orientations for a Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development”, along with the “Mediterranean Vision for Sustainable Development”, attempts to synthesize the various aspects of the many problems that still affect the Mediterranean. Based on sustainable development and governance principles, it has also presented orientations for the types of actions needed to address the challenges confronting the region. Priority areas in need of renewed financial and technical efforts have also been defined. A set of suggestions have been made also on how to make better use of Mediterranean human and financial resources and to raise additional resources to be focused on identifying new patterns for achieving better quality of life for all and implementing relevant actions.

During its 8th meeting, the commission decided that the preparatory process for the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development would be pursued with the aim of presenting the Strategy for adoption at the 2005 meeting of the Contracting Parties. It was proposed that work should be carried out in four stages:

1. A common vision
2. Strategic orientations
3. Cooperation with major stakeholders
4. Elaboration of the regional strategy for sustainable development complete with action plans and governance provisions

The expected results of the MSSD include the following:

- Improved Governance for regional and national sustainable development;
- Better preparation at national and regional levels to ensure that the environment and trade policies are mutually supportive, in view of the Euro Mediterranean Free-Trade area
- Better coordination and use of national and external investments in the Region
- Strengthening of the MCSD through a stronger implication of concerned Major Groups
- Exchange of experience among multi-stakeholders on sustainable development
- Publications related to and international workshops on the Mediterranean Regional case for exchange of experience and possible replication
- Awareness raising and capacity building in the field of sustainable development
- Coherence between regional and national approaches for sustainable development
- Strengthening of existing networks (MAP, METAP, Major Groups networks) and interlinkages among them.
- Specific targets of the Partnership Initiative and timeframe for their achievements
- Establishing National Environment and Development Observatories or similar information and decision making tool (5–8 countries by 2010)
- Establishing Cleaner Production Centers (7–10 countries by 2010)

- Preparing and implementing Local Governance through coastal management and participatory approach (5–8 countries by 2010)
- Halting the decline of biodiversity by managing specially protected areas of Mediterranean importance
- Developing and implementing plans for integrated management of the water demand, putting special emphasis on drinking water and irrigation
- Encouraging the establishment of National Commissions on Sustainable Development and the adoption of National Sustainable Development Strategies;
- Developing and implementing a Regional Strategic Action Plan on Tourism and Sustainable Development (by 2006)
- Preparing and implementing a Regional Information, Awareness and Public Participation Strategy (by 2006).

These expected results have been brought up as the needs of the Region in many previous studies that diagnose the Region from the environment and sustainability aspects. Accordingly, objectives of similar nature have been set by virtually every local or regional environmental management plan carried out in the Mediterranean Region.

The real challenge of obtaining the results aimed in the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development lies in successfully implementing the Strategy throughout the Mediterranean Region.

Even though all members involved in the preparation of this strategy are genuinely determined to bring a common environmental management strategy possessing the spirit of sustainability to life, it should be questioned whether their combined will shall be sufficient to achieve this goal.

In order to transform the objectives of the strategy to solid achievements, a broader participation should be enabled. The inclusion of representatives from government bodies that do not directly deal with environmental issues,

but have the legislative or institutional power to affect the development policies will bring out a more realistic and acceptable strategy that takes into account the views of all concerned parties.

CHAPTER VII

DISCUSSION

The work carried out by MCSD since its inception in 1996 till today (2004) is discussed in the following paragraphs under four headings. These are: the mandate of MCSD, The structure and composition of MCSD, The added value and quality of work carried out by MCSD, and Implementation of the MCSD Recommendations.

VII.1 The mandate of the MCSD

According to its terms of reference, the basic elements of the MCSD' mandate are the followings:

- a) Identification of major economic, ecological and social problems at the regional scale
- b) Making recommendations to the Contracting Parties
- c) Evaluating the implementation of the decisions
- d) Enabling exchange of information among institutions implementing activities related to sustainable development
- e) Enhancing regional cooperation
- f) Rationalizing inter-governmental decision-making capacity for integration of environment and development issues

If each of these points is evaluated separately we can obtain an idea on how realistic this mandate is.

Identifying economic, social and ecological problems of sustainable development of the Mediterranean Region is a natural task for an institution such as MCSD. The impact of the work carried out by the Commission is very much related to the level of success and comprehensiveness of this task. The success of the Commission in fulfilling this task is directly related and also limited to the variety, experience and perception of its participants. Similarly, the quality of the outputs that MCSD produces in the form of recommendations to the Contracting Parties is also related to the composition of the Commission. The adequacy of the composition of the Commission to fulfill these tasks will be discussed in more detail in the later paragraphs.

The Commission is in a position to observe how effectively its recommendations are implemented. As an advisory body, it can produce more recommendations towards the implementation of them if it is necessary. Additionally, the mandate should also include the evaluation of the effects and consequences of the implementation or non-implementation of the MCSD recommendations. This would enable the Commission to self-evaluate the quality of the work it carries out.

Being an advisory body within the framework of the Mediterranean Action Plan, which basically brings together the Ministers of Environment of the contracting parties, the MCSD is not in direct contact with most of the institutions that have the task of implementing activities related to sustainable development, and consequently the recommendations of MCSD. However, if participants from these institutions are included in the Commission's work, or at least they are given the chance to reflect their perspectives through special sessions or workshops, then the objective of enabling exchange of information among institutions implementing activities related to sustainable development would be more achievable. However, the direct inclusion of all related state agencies of the contracting parties in the work of MCSD would not be realistic due to the size and workability constraints.

The working process of the Commission itself acts in the direction of stimulating regional cooperation. Regional cooperation was one of the main motives behind the establishment of MCSD. Additionally, the Commission recently identified international cooperation as a new theme to explore for producing recommendations.

Finally, it is beyond the Commissions capacity to actually rationalize the inter-governmental decision-making capacity of the Mediterranean States. However, involvement in the work of the MCSD would provide a valuable opportunity for education and experience building.

VII.2 The structure and composition of MCSD

According to its terms of reference, the MCSD should incorporate the views from the major segments of the Mediterranean society in its work. Socio-economic actors and NGO's must be selected with consideration to north – south representation, developed and developing countries and rural – urban characteristics. Additionally, networks dealing with important subjects such as tourism, food, youth, women etc are to be represented in the Commission. Similarly NGO's with global, regional, national or local scopes are specified as participants of the Commission.

One positive attribute of the structure of MCSD is the representation of NGO's, local authorities and socio-economic actors on an equal footing with government representatives.

The real challenge of the MCSD is the timely implementation of its recommendations. Without inclusion of representatives from governmental institutions that have the legislative or institutional power to devise and implement the development policies in the work of the MCSD, it would be almost impossible to meet this challenge. Obviously, it would not be possible to include representatives from each of the development related ministries to the Commission because of the efficiency problems that would arise from

such a large participation. It could be possible to include them in the process by arranging special sessions or workshops, where a broader participation is possible. However this would require a higher level of representation of the Contracting Parties in the MCSD (at the level of Prime Ministry rather than the Ministry of Environment) in order to involve all relevant development institutions in the work carried out by MCSD.

As it is, the Commission has only a limited influence on the Ministries of Environment of the Contracting Parties. Therefore, it will not be realistic to expect that the recommendations of MCSD will be readily adopted by all levels of the governmental and social segments of the Mediterranean society and voluntarily implemented.

Therefore, the goal of initiating, guiding and enhancing sustainable development throughout the Mediterranean Region is definitely too ambitious for the MCSD with its current structure and capacity.

VII.3 The added value and quality of work carried out by MCSD

The MCSD endeavors to correctly identify the major issues concerning the sustainable development of the Mediterranean Region.

In fact, several of the present sustainable development problems of the Mediterranean Region have been dealt with in various other studies. The issues identified by MCSD generally coincide with the findings of other similar studies. Although this may show that the major issues that are pertinent to sustainable development are correctly identified by the Commission, it may also indicate that the Commission does not bring a new perspective in the direction of sustainable development. The causes behind the obvious sustainable development issues or problems are not fully explored. Pointing out the problems that are currently experienced throughout the Mediterranean Region is not sufficient while the sources of these problems still remain unidentified.

The role of the MCSD as a think-tank instrument and a high level policy forum for identifying, evaluating and examining sustainable development issues in the Mediterranean Region is very important. However, in order for MCSD to act as a qualified high-level policy forum, it has to include very qualified participants who are capable of evaluating the needs correctly and recommending policies and actions that can cope with the needs. In addition, MCSD must utilize a high level of expert advice and contribution from the professional and scientific communities in order to achieve a high quality level.

The innovativeness of the work carried out by the MCSD could also be questioned. The recommendations of the MCSD and its Working Groups are generally the basic fundamental points that are almost universally agreed on. What should be expected from the Commission is to define the practical approaches to the theoretical goals. The MCSD, despite its aim to produce practical implementation oriented recommendations, moves away from its purpose by repeating earlier work and failing to bring new perspectives towards the implementation aspect of sustainable development problems of the Mediterranean.

One major shortcoming of the work carried out by the MCSD works, which also leads to repetition and the problem of innovativeness described above, is the very limited collaboration with the academic community. Experts from the universities and interdisciplinary technical networks have not been widely utilized by the MCSD in its past work. Since participation of the academic community that has been working on sustainable development issues for a very long time is not sufficiently enabled, the transfer of experience from the already carried out works have been limited and indirect.

For example, the work carried out by the Thematic Working Group on Sustainable Development of Coastal Areas and the output report containing recommendations is more or less the repetition of the "Guidelines for

Integrated Management of Coastal and Marine Areas: with special reference to the Mediterranean Basin”, which was published by PAP/RAC in 1994. While the fact that these recommendations are adopted by the contracting parties is meaningful, the whole process leading to this output is still a repetition of the earlier work.

VII.4 Implementation of the MCSD Recommendations

The work carried out by MCSD addresses the sustainable development issues of the Mediterranean Region. However, the implementation of MCSD recommendations is not sufficiently dealt with by the Commission, although its importance has been stressed several times during MCSD meetings.

The Commission has noted that most of the past strategies and plans have failed at the implementation stage. Still, instead of exploring the factors responsible for these failures, the Commission sets similar goals without defining the key steps that are necessary for reaching them. There do not exist any monitoring instrument or scheme that measure the level of implementation of the MCSD recommendations at both national and regional levels. Currently, there are efforts to define such mechanisms and incorporate them within the upcoming Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development.

The MCSD sends its recommendations to the Contracting Parties for adoption. The adoption of the MCSD recommendations at the Contracting Parties meeting actually means that they are accepted by the Ministries of Environment of Mediterranean Countries. The current political system in many of the Mediterranean Countries does not give Ministries of Environment an implementation based role. Therefore, the Ministries of Environment have to pass these recommendations to other ministries or institutions that are in a position to implement policies that are related to sustainable development. Since most of these institutions or ministries are not included in the preparation process of these recommendations, it would not be too surprising

to see that they do not readily accept them and take initiative in their implementation.

As the result of the above discussion, the strong and weak aspects of the MCSD at present can be summarized as follows:

a) Strong aspects:

1. Enables representation of NGO's, local authorities and socio-economic actors on an equal footing with the government representatives.
2. Serves as a general forum for dialogue where ideas can be freely expressed
3. Has the commitment and support of the Mediterranean States and international institutions
4. Secures a degree of official binding to its work through the adoption of recommendations by the Contracting Parties

b) Weak aspects:

1. Insufficient inclusion of the institutions that are in the position to implement activities related to sustainable development, a low level representation by the contracting parties (e.g. the Ministries of Environment).
2. Insufficient collaboration with the academic community
3. Limited experience transfer from previous studies
4. Lack of innovativeness and repetition of earlier work
5. Lack of defined mechanisms for monitoring the implementation of the MCSD recommendations

CHAPTER VIII

CONCLUSION

During its first decade, the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development has put genuine efforts in the direction of promoting sustainable development in the Mediterranean Region. The Commission provided a regional forum for dialogue where ideas can be freely exchanged. Furthermore, The Commission gave a chance to the representatives of the Mediterranean society to work on an equal footing with the government representatives.

The Commission was successful in securing the support of the Mediterranean States and international framework institutions such as United Nations and the European Union. Additionally, all non-governmental participants involved in the works of the Commission were committed to the process.

The work of the Commission has contributed to better communication between different actors of the Mediterranean community. Through this communication a common vision on the future of the Mediterranean has started to be shared by all parties involved. The current efforts which are underway to formulate a Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development will carry this vision in its center. Furthermore, the successful formulation and promotion of this Strategy will undoubtedly integrate various sectoral attempts into the sustainable development framework within the Mediterranean Region.

However, a number of shortcomings can be identified within the work of the Commission in the past. The present structure of the Commission is not appropriate for coping with its mandate. The experience and technical expertise of the academic and professional communities has not been sufficiently utilized by the Commission. If representatives from universities and interdisciplinary networks are incorporated in the work of the Commission, it would be possible to produce recommendations with higher qualities. This will also enable a better transfer of experience from the previous studies. Moreover, the repetition of earlier work will be minimized and the Commission and its Working Groups will be able to produce more innovative recommendations.

Another shortcoming that is already recognized by the Commission is the lack of monitoring mechanisms for the follow-up and implementation of its recommendations. With the initiation of Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development, its implementation will be the most important challenge before the sustainable development of the Mediterranean Region. In this context, the Commission will have to produce solid recommendations for devising monitoring mechanisms that would help to follow up the implementation.

Finally, the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development should be credited for keeping Sustainable Development as a goal for the Mediterranean Region and aiming for an integrated strategic approach to tackling various problems caused by development. The MCSD is essential for MAP to better understand contemporary sustainable development issues and respond accordingly.

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APPENDIX I: LIST of MEETINGS of MCSD

1996

First Meeting of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD) Rabat, Morocco, 16 - 18 December 1996.

1997

First Meeting of the Bureau of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD) Athens, Greece, 20 - 21 February 1997.

Second Meeting of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD) Palma de Majorca, Spain, 6 - 8 May 1997.

Third Meeting of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD) Sophia Antipolis, France, 28 - 30 October 1997.

1998

Fourth Meeting of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD) Monaco, 20 - 22 October 1998.

1999

Second Meeting of the Steering Committee of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD) Tunis, 8 - 9 March 1999.

Fifth Meeting of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD) Rome, 1 - 3 July 1999.

2000

Third Meeting of the Steering Committee of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD) Tunis, 20 - 21 January 2000.

Fourth Meeting of the Steering Committee of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD) Corfu, 22 - 23 June 2000.

Sixth Meeting of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD) Tunis, 14 - 17 November 2000.

2001

Fifth Meeting of the Steering Committee of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD) Monaco, 18 - 19 May 2001.

Extraordinary Meeting of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD) Monaco, 12 November 2001.

2002

Seventh Meeting of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD) Antalya, 13 - 16 March, 2002.

2003

Eighth Meeting of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD) Cavtat, Croatia, 14 - 16 May 2003.

APPENDIX II: MEMBERS OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE OF MCSD

MEMBERS OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE OF THE MCSD

1 st MCSD meeting (1996)	4 th MCSD meeting (1998)	5 th MCSD meeting (1999)	6 th MCSD meeting (2000)
President: MOROCCO Vice President: ASCAME Vice President : CREE Vice President : CROATIA Vice President : EGYPT Vice President : EC Vice President : TUNISIA Rapporteur : ECOMEDITERRANEA	President : TUNISIA Vice President : EOAEN Vice President : CYPRUS Vice President : MIO-ECSDE Vice President : SILIFKE MUNIC. Vice President : SPAIN Rapporteur : MONACO	President : TUNISIA Vice President : EOAEN Vice President : CITY OF ROME Vice President : MALTA Vice President : MONACO Vice President : TURKEY Rapporteur : WWF	President : MONACO Vice President : TUNISIA Vice President : MALTA Vice President : GREECE Vice President : EOAEN Vice President : ENDA Rapporteur: MUNIC.OF NAPLES

FIG. 5; [43]

Members of the Steering Committee of the MCSD

APPENDIX III: MEMBERS OF THE MCSD MAJOR GROUPS

PREVIOUS MEMBERS OF THE MCSD (December 1996-October 2000, MCSD I to MCSD V)	PRESENT MEMBERS OF THE MCSD (November 2000-March 2002, MCSD VI and MCSD VII)	NEW MEMBERS OF THE MCSD (March 2002-2004, MCSD VIII and MCSD IX)
<p>LOCAL AUTHORITIES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ CREE (network) ➤ MUNICIPALITY OF ROME (ITALY) ➤ MUNICIPALITY OF DUBROVNIK (CROATIA) ➤ MUNICIPALITY OF SILIFKE (TURKEY) ➤ MEDCITIES (network) <p>SOCIO-ECONOMIC ACTORS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ ASCAME-ASSOCIATION OF THE MEDITERRANEAN CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY ➤ CEFIC/EUROCHLOR ➤ EOAN (CHAMBERS GROUP FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF GREEK ISLANDS) ➤ FID-FEDERATION DES INDUSTRIES DIVERSES(MOROCCO) ➤ RME - RESEAU MEDITERRANEN DE L'EAU 	<p>LOCAL AUTHORITIES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ MEDICITIES (network) ➤ IFOCJULAI-UNION OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES OF ISRAEL(network) ➤ MUNICIPALITY OF CALVIA (SPAIN) ➤ MUNICIPALITY OF NAPOLI (ITALY) ➤ MUNICIPALITY OF TRIPOLI (LIBYA) <p>SOCIO-ECONOMIC ACTORS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ AIFM (ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONALE DES FORETS MEDITERRANENNES) ➤ IME (INSTITUT MEDITERRANEN DE L'EAU) ➤ MEDENER (MEDITERRANEAN ASSOCIATION OF THE NATIONAL AGENCIES FOR ENERGY CONSERVATION) ➤ EOAN (CHAMBERS GROUP FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF GREEK ISLANDS) ➤ FEI-FEDERATION OF EGYPTIAN INDUSTRIES 	<p>LOCAL AUTHORITIES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ MUNICIPALITY OF NAPLES (ITALY) ➤ MUNICIPALITY OF OMISALJ (CROATIA) ➤ AL FAYHAA URBAN COMMUNITY(LEBANON) ➤ MUNICIPALITY OF TETOUAN (MOROCCO) ➤ MEDCITIES (network) <p>SOCIO-ECONOMIC ACTORS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ ASCAME- ASSOCIATION OF MEDITERRANEAN CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY ➤ EDCM/ICC- ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CHAMBERS OF MONACO ➤ EBA-EGYPTIAN BUSINESS ASSOCIATION ➤ INSULEUR-NETWORK OF THE INSULAR CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY OF THE EUROPEAN UNION ➤ FEMISE-EURO-MEDITERRANEAN FORUM OF ECONOMIC INSTITUTES
<p>NGOs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ MIO-ECSD- MEDITERRANEAN INFORMATION OFFICE FOR ENVIRONMENT, CULTURE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (network) ➤ ECOMEDITERRANEAN (SPAIN) ➤ WWF ➤ APNEK (TUNISIA) ➤ FIS-FOUNDATION OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES (MALTA) 	<p>NGOs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ ENDA MAGHREB (ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT) ➤ MEDWET (MEDITERRANEAN WETLANDS) ➤ WWF ➤ MEDFORUM (MEDITERRANEAN NGO NETWORK FOR ECOLOGY AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT) ➤ MEDCOAST (TURKEY) 	<p>NGOs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ FOE/MEDNET (FRIENDS OF THE EARTH/MEDITERRANEAN NETWORK) ➤ MED FORUM (MEDITERRANEAN NGO NETWORK FOR ECOLOGY AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT) ➤ ENDA MAGHREB (ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT) ➤ MIO/ECSD- MEDITERRANEAN INFORMATION OFFICE FOR ENVIRONMENT, CULTURE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT-(network) ➤ RAED-ARAB NETWORK FOR ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT (network)

FIG. 6; Members of the MCSD Major Groups, [43]