

Ninth meeting of the Working Group of the Parties to the Protocol on PRTRs

24-25 November 2022

Item 5(b) Development of the Protocol; (Section II) Possible linkages to plastic pollution and related efforts



**Mediterranean
Action Plan**
Barcelona
Convention

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Programme (MED POL)

Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP)

The Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP)—Barcelona Convention System works with Contracting Parties and partners to fulfill the vision of a healthy Mediterranean Sea and Coast that underpin sustainable development in the region.

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MAP was established in 1975 as a multilateral environmental agreement in the context of the Regional Seas Programme of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). Mediterranean countries and the European Community approved MAP as the institutional framework for cooperation in addressing common challenges of marine environmental degradation.

Under the auspices of UNEP/MAP, a framework convention dedicated to the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution was adopted in 1976 and amended two decades later to encompass the key concepts adopted at the landmark 1992 Rio Conference and to include coasts in its scope. The Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean (Barcelona Convention) was adopted in 1995.

UNEP/MAP and the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention – 21 Mediterranean countries and the European Union – have progressively erected a uniquely comprehensive institutional, legal, and implementing framework integrating essential building blocks for sustainability in the Mediterranean.



Biennium 2018-2019: Capacity Building

Meeting on the Best Practices on Enforcement and Compliance for Industrial Sectors,
Athens, Greece, 9-10 October 2019

The main objectives of the meeting are to bring together national experts working in the environmental permitting and inspection systems to:

- a) Bridge the link between industrial operators and governmental agencies/authorities **to ensure that polluters/emitters do comply with the legal and reporting requirements, and permit obligations;**
- b) Strengthen national inspection and permitting systems **by promoting the use of Best Available Techniques (BAT);**



[The Meeting recommended](#) to further explore complementary tools for compliance assessment such as PRTR systems including NBB that can further solicitate compliance and enforcement mechanisms;



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6 March 2017
Original: English

Meeting of the Mediterranean Informal Network on Compliance and Enforcement

Greece, 6-7 April 2017

Agenda item 4: Strengthening the Inspection and Permitting Systems to promote the use of Best Available Techniques (BAT)

Guide on Inspection of Industrial Facilities



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Agenda item 4: Strengthening the Inspection and Permitting Systems to promote the use of Best Available Techniques (BAT)

Guide on the Selection of Best Available Techniques (BAT) in Industrial Installations

Biennium 2020-2021: Capacity Building

Meeting on Evaluation of Implementation of National Action Plans and Assessments, and Tools to estimate pollutant load from diffuse sources, (Videoconference, 22-23 April 2021)

The objectives of this meeting are to:

- (a) review and approve **the proposed estimation techniques for loads from agriculture, catchment runoff, and aquaculture** aiming to complement the NBB/PRTR Methodology;
- (b) Review and approve the Midterm Evaluation of the National Action Plans implementation based on the NAP Indicators and data collected.

MED POL FPs approved the documents (Videoconference, 6-7 October 2021)

The Meeting **approved the document and recommended the use of the Guidelines** for the preparation of the 5th Cycle of NBB update for the biennium 2024-2025.

The Meeting further recommended its use to plan the collection of data for assessment of pressures and development of an indicator on nutrient releases from **the aquaculture sector.**



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07 May 2021
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Meeting of the MED POL Focal Points

Videoconference, 27-28 May 2021 and 6-7 October 2021

Agenda item 5: Indicator-based midterm evaluation of the implementation of National Action Plans/Programme of Measures (2015-2020)

Draft Indicator-based Midterm Evaluation of the Implementation of National Action Plans/Programme of Measures (2015-2020)

Biennium 2020-2021: Update of Legal Framework, endorsed by COP 22, Antalya, Turkiye (December 2021)

Decision IG.25/8: Regional Plans on Urban Wastewater Treatment and Sewage Sludge Management in the Framework of Article 15 of the LBS

Decision IG.25/5: Amendments to Annexes I, II and IV to the Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution from Land-Based Sources and Activities (LBS Protocol)

The Regional Plan on UWWT is regulating the **collection, treatment, reuse and discharge of urban wastewaters** and the pre-treatment and **discharge of industrial wastewater entering collecting systems** from certain industrial sectors.

The Regional Plan on Sludge is to ensure effective reuse of beneficial substances and exploitation of energy potential of sewage sludge, while preventing harmful effects on human health and the environment

19. Agriculture;
20. Animal husbandry **including animal slaughterhouses and animal by-products industries;**
21. Food processing;
22. Aquaculture **and fishing;**
23. Treatment and disposal of hazardous wastes;
24. Treatment and disposal **of urban** wastewater;
25. Management, **including treatment and disposal,** of urban solid waste;
26. Disposal of sewage sludge;
27. The waste management industry;
28. Incineration of waste and management of its residues;
29. Works which cause physical alteration of the natural state of the coastline **including physical restructuring of rivers, coastline or seabed (water management);**
30. Transport;
31. **Construction;**
32. **Water collection and supply including desalination of seawater.**
33. **Mixed industrial zones including at least one of the above sectors.**

Biennium 2022-2023: Capacity Building

Technical Guidelines on related Sector of Activities

Expert Meeting;
23-24 November 2022



Approval by MEDPOL FPs
Meeting; 23-25 May 2023

- **Regional guideline on available treatment technologies** for urban wastewater and sewage sludge and decision support systems (DSS) for their selection;
- **Regional guideline on pre-treatment standards** and applicable BATs for industrial sectors eligible to discharge to urban wastewater collection systems;
- **Guideline on Regional Standards for Discharge from Desalination Plants** and Decision Support Systems for Sustainable Desalination Technologies in the Mediterranean

CORMON ML Meeting;
3-5 March 2022(tbc)



Approval by MEDPOL FPs
Meeting; 23-25 May 2023

- **Guidelines for Monitoring Microplastics coming from WWTP and Report on the source of microplastics entering to the collecting system in Mediterranean**

Data collection for 2022-2023; Aquaculture

UNEP/MAP MEDPOL is planning a test data collection on releases from Aquaculture, by using the approved guidelines on estimation techniques (approved in 2021). The pilot will be implemented in 2 countries. And..



Larger scale of application will be executed under the “UNEP/MAP–EEA Joint Work Plan 2022-2030”

Thank you

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Mediterranean Pollution Assessment and Control Programme (MED POL)**

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