

**Conclusions of
Joint Meeting of the Focal Points of BP, INFO and PAP RACs Related to
PAP/RAC 2006-2007 Progress Report and
Proposed Recommendations and Work Programme for 2008-2009**

(Palermo, 6 June 2007)

1. The Progress Report on the PAP/RAC Activities Implemented or On-going During the 2006-2007 Biennium was well received and approved by the participants. Many countries congratulated PAP/RAC on their work pointing out the great amount of effort put in the projects undertaken, their diversity, regional distribution and balance among the countries. In particular, efforts related to the preparation of the ICZM Protocol, CAMP projects and other ICZM initiatives were underlined. They also acknowledged that all that had been achieved with limited staff resources.

2. With regard to the projects implementation, the participants suggested that there was still some room for improvements. In particular, it was suggested to improve the links with other RACs in the implementation of the work programme, and to show these links clearly in the next progress report, as well as to make a cross-reference map in the report to show the links with major MAP documents and commitments, such as with the MSSD, Barcelona Convention as such, and the ICZM Protocol.

3. A number of projects were implemented or are being implemented with external funds, and the participants recognised these extra efforts of PAP/RAC to enrich the work programme. Thus, the participants agreed that the added value had been achieved, as well as synergies with other institutions and projects. All this contributed to the exchange of experience among the projects and regions, and improved the visibility of PAP/RAC and MAP.

4. It was recommended that PAP/RAC should:

- try to extend some projects (like SMAP) to all of the Mediterranean countries,
- establish criteria for the selection of external projects and give priority to those closely linked with the priorities of the ICZM Protocol and MSSD, and
- secure a better promotion and dissemination of these projects.

5. Risk management was recognised as one of the priorities for the future. PAP/RAC should prepare a roadmap for the implementation of the Protocol articles related to risks. In particular, it should make a common framework and develop specific tools and strategies to reduce negative effects of environmental risks and natural disasters.

6. Marketing strategy for a better promotion of the ICZM Protocol was accepted by the participants as a very important and innovative initiative. It was recommended to:

- support countries to implement the marketing strategy, especially with regard to the ICZM Protocol,
- extend SMAP marketing activities to all of the Mediterranean countries,
- develop a general strategy for ICZM marketing adaptable to respective countries and a common methodological tool for its implementation,
- strengthen education and training on participatory approaches which help the implementation of ICZM marketing, and
- provide assistance from professionals for ICZM marketing within projects.

7. The proposed Work Programme for 2007-2008, presented in a logical frame format as requested by the Co-ordinating Unit, was well received by the participants. The main activities in the biennium to come will be related to ICZM, Protocol and CAMPs, which are PAP/RAC priorities. The participants agreed that all the relevant issues and ICZM topics from various MAP documents and commitments were well covered by the proposed activities. However, the activities proposed should be accompanied by the related budget, and activities should be given some more prioritisation. This would give PAP/RAC more flexibility in coping with uncertainties due to the fact that ICZM Protocol has not yet been adopted. Also, it was suggested to better present the links with other MAP components.