



Memorandum of Cooperation

between

The Coordinating Unit of the Mediterranean Action Plan (Secretariat of the Barcelona Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean)

and

IUCN – The World Conservation Union¹

GIVEN the mission of IUCN in the Mediterranean region is to, *inter alia*, influence, encourage and assist Mediterranean societies in achieving both the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources, and sustainable development;

GIVEN the objectives of the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean (Barcelona Convention) and its Protocols, specifically the Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean;

GIVEN the networks of 170 IUCN members in the Mediterranean region, including 15 State members who are also signatories to the Barcelona Convention, and nearly 1000 volunteer experts who are members of the six IUCN Commissions;

NOTING the existing framework agreement of cooperation between IUCN and UNEP that makes specific provision for regional collaboration between the two parties; and

RECALLING the long-standing collaboration existing between the Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Areas (RAC/SPA) and IUCN, and the working linkages already established by IUCN with the other MAP structures and through the Mediterranean Commission for Sustainable Development (MCSDD);

The Coordinating Unit of the Mediterranean Action Plan and IUCN (herein represented by the IUCN Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation), hereafter referred to as the parties, agree to cooperate in the following broad areas of work:-

1. Identification, designation, management and monitoring of protected areas in the Mediterranean region (terrestrial and marine, including SPAMIs and Particularly Sensitive Sea Areas);
2. Promotion of integrated water resource management;
3. Interactions between fisheries (including aquaculture) and biodiversity;
4. Interactions between maritime traffic and biodiversity;
5. Conservation of marine and terrestrial biodiversity, especially threatened and endangered species, including amendments to the relevant annexes and protocols;
6. Sustainable management of Mediterranean forests

¹ Represented by the IUCN Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation



7. Governance issues related to the conservation and management of natural resources of the Mediterranean Sea;
8. Coordination of their actions in collaboration with the ACCOBAMS Secretariat;
9. Implementation and follow-up of Action Plans as adopted from time to time under the Convention; and
10. Implementation of the relevant components of the SAP-BIO programme and the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development;

In pursuing these cooperation objectives, the parties shall review their respective annual work programmes in order to identify relevant areas of synergy, and subject to available resources agree joint activities.

Where necessary, the Coordinating Unit of the Mediterranean Action Plan or the Regional Activity Centres may establish specific Memoranda of Understanding with IUCN component programmes in order to further define the details of their collaboration on specific activities.

The nature of the activities may include, but will not necessarily be restricted to :

- Organising, participating in and collaborating on joint initiatives, that may include projects, reports, seminars, conferences or other processes related to the programmes of work;
- Collaborating in publicising and disseminating, in relevant international fora, the Mediterranean experience and achievements in protecting the natural heritage;
- Exchanging information on technical issues of common interest; and
- Disseminating awareness of the parties' activities within their respective networks.

The implementation of this Memorandum of Cooperation and the monitoring of activities undertaken hereunder will be the responsibility primarily of the IUCN Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation, on behalf of IUCN, and of RAC/SPA, on behalf of the Coordinating Unit of the Mediterranean Action Plan.

This Memorandum of Cooperation shall become effective on the date of its signature by the second-and-last party, and shall remain in force until 31 December 2009 (the expiration date). Prior to the expiration date, this Memorandum of Cooperation (a) may be terminated by either party through reasonable advance written notice to the other party, or (b) may be extended or modified through the parties' mutual written agreement.

In witness whereof, the undersigned, being duly authorized to do so, have executed this Memorandum of Cooperation in the English language in two (2) counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, and which together shall constitute one and the same instrument.

Date :

Date:

*For the Coordinating Unit of the
Mediterranean Action Plan*

*For IUCN – The World Conservation
Union*

Paul Mifsud
Coordinator

Jamie Skinner
Director
IUCN Centre for Mediterranean
Cooperation