

Overview of policy advances to tackle microplastics

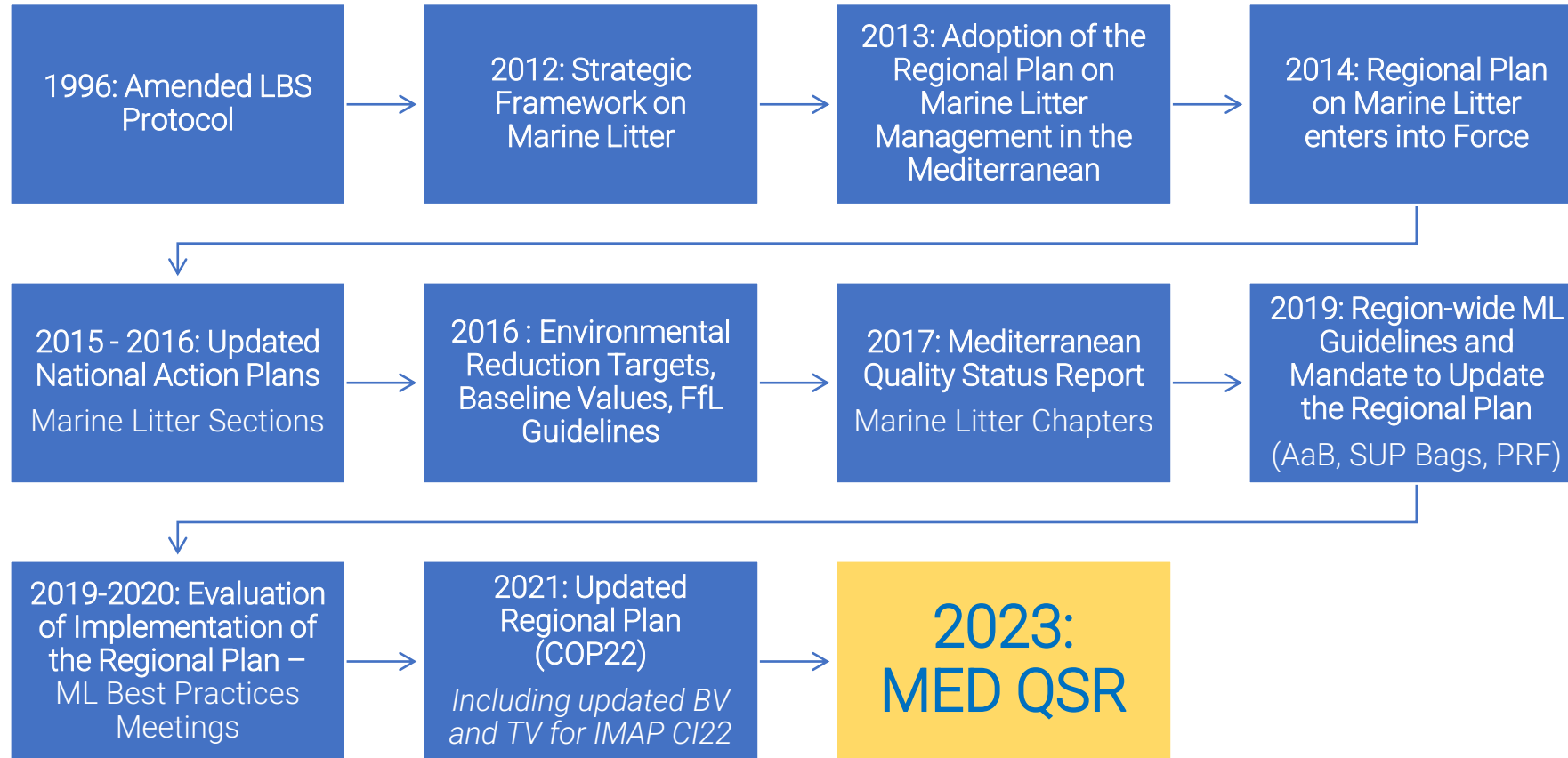
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**Mediterranean
Action Plan**
Barcelona
Convention

WES Regional training (3 webinars)
Understanding better microplastics and identifying how to
address the issue (Activity No: RE-2-REG)

MAP/Barcelona Convention System: Advanced Policy and Regulatory Framework for Marine Litter



MAP/Barcelona Convention System: Advanced Policy and Regulatory Framework for Marine Litter

MEETING

22nd Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols

7 - 10 December 2021
Antalya , Turkey



BARCELONA CONVENTION
COP22
ANTALYA2021

- ✓ **COP22 Antalya Ministerial Declaration: *Leaving a Pollution and Litter-free Legacy***
 - (i) supports the establishment of an International Negotiating Committee at UNEA 5.2, with a mandate to develop a legally binding global agreement to address plastic pollution;*
 - (ii) recognize and encourage the work of the Marine Litter Collaboration Platform*
- ✓ **New Mid-Term-Strategy with a Strong Component on Marine Litter**
- ✓ **Updated Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean**
- ✓ **5 New Appendices: (i) Mediterranean priority list of SUPs per group of items; (ii) List of Chemical Additives of Concern Used in Plastic Production; (iii) Updated Workplan and Timetable; (iv) Potential Research Topics; and (v) 2021 Baseline Values and Threshold Values for IMAP Common Indicator 22**

Updated Regional Plan on Marine Litter

Mandated during COP21 (Naples, Italy, Dec. 2019) and adopted during **COP22** (Antalya, Turkey, Dec. 2021, Decision IG.25/9)

PART I: General Provision

PART II: Measures & Operational Targets

PART III: Assessment of Marine Litter in the Mediterranean

PART IV: Concrete Support to its Implementation

PART V: Final Provisions

Links of the Updated Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management with Global Agenda

- ✓ United Nations Environmental Assembly (UNEA) Resolutions on (i) marine plastic litter and microplastics (UNEP/EA.1/Res.6; UNEP/EA.2/Res.11; UNEP/EA.3/Res.7; UNEP/EA.4/Res.6) (ii) Single-use plastic products pollution (UNEP/EA.4/ Res.9).
- ✓ Upcoming UNEA 5.2 (Feb.–Mar. 2022, Nairobi, Kenya): Resolution aims to establish an Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC) with a mandate to negotiate a legally binding global agreement to address plastic pollution with the objective of reducing discharge of plastics into the environment by covering all stages of the plastic life cycle and by adopting a circular economy approach to plastics.
- ✓ UNEP Marine Litter Partnerships and Initiatives: Global Partnership on Marine Litter (GPML) and Clean Seas Campaign
- ✓ IMO Action Plan to Address Marine Plastic Litter from Ships
- ✓ Basel Convention - Plastic Waste Partnership (PWP)
- ✓ EU Policies on Marine Litter and Plastic: MSFD, EU Plastics Strategy, New Circular Economy Action Plan, Single-use Plastic Directive, European Green Deal Policy Framework, Waste Framework Directive

International Conventions linked to Marine Litter and Plastic Pollution

International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL)

Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal

Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants

Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade

United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea

London Convention and Protocol

Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

Convention on Biological Diversity

New Elements of the Updated Regional Plan on Marine Litter(2021)

- ❑ New definitions introduced by updated Regional Plan (e.g., ALDFG, BAT-BEP, Circular Economy, EPR, Fishing Gear, Lightweight plastic carrier bags, monitoring, micro-litter/plastics, primary/secondary microplastics, SUPs etc.)
- ❑ Scope of measures are expanded under four key areas: economic instruments, circular economy of plastics, land-based and sea-based sources of marine litter.
- ❑ Amendments target plastic waste and microplastics.
- ❑ Furthermore, two new appendices are appended to the Regional Plan.
 - ✓ The first provides a list of single-use-plastic items
 - ✓ the second includes a list of chemical additives of concern used in plastic production further to the Stockholm Convention

Additional principles and measures addressed by the Updated Regional Plan on Marine Litter

- Phase out single use plastic items and promote reuse options;
- Set targets for plastic recycling and other waste items
- Introduce economic instruments such as environmental taxes, bans and design requirements; EPR (land and sea-based sources)
- Promote new technologies and measures for the removal of marine litter;
- Apply preventions measures to achieve a circular economy for plastics;
- Reduce packaging;
- Promote voluntary agreements with industry;
- Take measure to integrate the informal sector into regulated waste collection and recycling schemes
- Strengthen measures related to SCP programmes
- Phase-out chemical additives used in plastic products, in particular those under Stockholm Convention
- Introduce a concrete measures on microplastics reduction
- Implement measure to prevent and reduce ML in MPA
- Minimize the amount of marine litter associated with fishing/aquaculture
- Establish Marine Litter Monitoring Programmes as part of IMAP E010 including riverine inputs and WWTP
- Enhance Public Awareness and Education
- Include in the SPAMIs measures to combat marine litter

Added Value of the Updated Regional Plan on Marine Litter

- Reflects and addresses recent directions by UNEA resolutions, global conventions and regional initiatives;
- Encompasses substantive elements and lessons learnt over the 2013 version of Regional Plan;
- In support of implementation of its activities, the PoW (2022-2023) allocates approximately USD 235,000. These are included under:
 - **Outcome 1.1 of MTS:** Strategies and Action plan addressing marine litter and plastics developed and implemented through comprehensive, coherent and collaborative approaches
 - **Outcome 5.4 of MTS:** Enhanced partnerships and multi-stakeholder engagement, including with the private sector and science policy interface
 - **Outcomes 6.2 and 6.3 of MTS:** Science-based implementation of IMAP
- **Resource mobilization** (e.g., Marine Litter MED II, EcAp MED III, IMAP-MPA, WES, and Plastic Busters Project; and the Cooperation with the Italian Ministry for Ecological Transition).

Thank you



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Barcelona Convention Secretariat



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