

Decision IG.21/11

supporting the review of the Mediterranean Strategy on Sustainable Development (MSSD), proposed by the MCSD Steering Committee

The 18th Meeting of the Contracting Parties,

Considering that global processes to better embed sustainability following RIO+20 require the Barcelona Convention to renew the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD),

Acknowledging that the renewed MSSD should act as a tool to facilitate the ecological transition by influencing social and economic activities,

Taking note of the recommendations of the 15th MCSD Meeting with respect to the review of the MSSD,

Appreciating that ensuring stakeholder participation and ownership is key to achieving a high level of implementation and that the roadmap for reviewing the MSSD should specify how this will happen,

Reaffirming in the light of the CoP Decision IG.20/13, that the MSSD is directly linked to the MCSD, and that a renewed MSSD requires a reformed MCSD,

Decides to:

Request MAP Secretariat to launch the process of the review of the MSSD with a view to submitting a revised MSSD for consideration and adoption by the Contracting Parties in their 19th Meeting, on the basis of the roadmap in Annex 1;

Request Plan Bleu to support the Secretariat in the process of revision of the MSSD in terms of provision of monitoring information and reporting on MSSD implementation, including related programs that have an impact on MSSD outcomes in the whole Mediterranean, and the coordination of consultation and drafting processes, for this revision;

Request the Secretariat to ensure that the revised MSSD should have a long time-frame (10 years) and contain both forward-looking and action-oriented elements;

Request the Secretariat to ensure that the revised MSSD is articulated with global, regional and MAP processes;

Request the Secretariat to ensure that the revised MSSD is result-oriented, simple and based *inter alia* on the assessment of the impact of the current MSSD and of national sustainable development processes, as well as a shared vision of sustainable development challenges facing the region;

Request the Secretariat to ensure that the revised MSSD includes the integration of MAP's priority fields of action (such as, *inter alia*, Integrated Coastal Zone Management [ICZM]) and relevant processes (such as, *inter alia*, the ecosystems approach and the Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) Action Plan), and addresses also other issues;

Request the Secretariat to ensure that the revised MSSD integrates the strategic orientations of the SCP Action Plan and other relevant policies.

Annex

Roadmap for the review of the MSSD

2014

January 2014

1. Launch the MSSD review process.
2. Set up virtual online platform to facilitate collaboration with key stakeholders.
3. Set up 3 to 5 expert groups to assist with the evaluation of the MSSD 1.0 and the drafting of MSSD 2.0, chosen on the basis of criteria agreed with Steering Committee.
4. Set up a consultative group to help with the drafting the MSSD 2.0. This group should be geographically and thematically balanced and chosen on the basis of criteria agreed with Steering Committee. The MCSD Steering Committee, other MCSD members, MAP components and main MAP partner organizations will take part in this group. It should be limited to 20 members to keep it manageable. Sub groups may be defined to work on specific axes.
5. Begin work on a Consultation Report that compiles existing evidence on the implementation of the MSSD, including evidence relating to which international programmes, projects and processes are contributing to the implementation of the MSSD, as well as identifying issues and challenges for the revised MSSD and indicating the method of review of the MSSD.

April 2014

6. On the basis of the Consultation Report on implementation of MSSD 1.0, launch a wide consultation process, facilitated by the virtual online platform, with MCSD members and other key regional and, where appropriate, global stakeholders, regarding how the MSSD can be updated and reviewed to take on board Rio+20 outcomes.

June 2014

7. Drawing on assistance from the expert groups and consultation group, use the Consultation report and results from the consultation to prepare a draft structure for MSSD 2.0, to be considered and approved by the MCSD Steering Committee meeting in June 2014, and thereafter begin the drafting of the revised MSSD.

December 2014

8. Finalization of first draft of the revised MSSD.

2015

January 2015

1. Circulation of the revised MSSD to MCSD members. This should take place at least 6 weeks before the MCSD meeting to allow members to consult internally.

February 2015

2. Conference with MCSD members and MAP components and partner organizations to endorse first draft of the MSSD 2.0, provided funds are available.

April 2015

3. Draft MSSD 2.0 submitted to MAP Focal Points meeting for initial comments.

May 2015

4. Expert group meeting to integrate MCSD and MAP Focal Point comments.

June 2015

5. MSSD 2.0 Draft submitted to MCSD meeting for finalization.

September 2015

6. MSSD 2.0 submitted to MAP focal point meeting.

End 2015

7. MSSD 2.0 submitted to COP 19 for adoption.