

**UNITED NATIONS
ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME
MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN**

26 May 2021
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Third Meeting of the Barcelona Convention Offshore Oil and Gas Group (OFOG) Sub-Group on Environmental Impact
Teleconference, 3-4 June 2021

Agenda Item 2: Adoption of the Agenda and Election of Officers**Provisional Annotated Agenda**

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Introduction

1. In accordance with the UNEP/MAP Programme of Work 2020-2021 adopted by the 21st Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols (COP 21) (Naples, Italy, 2-5 December 2019), the Secretariat, with the support of the Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC), is organizing the Third Meeting of the Barcelona Convention Offshore Oil and Gas Group (OFOG) Sub-Group on Environmental Impact on 3-4 June 2021 (remote meeting).

2. The main objectives of the meeting are to:

- (1) Review and provide further guidance on the key outcomes that have been prepared or updated in the current biennium in relation to the implementation of the Offshore Protocol.
- (2) Review and approve the following documents for consideration at the 22nd Meeting of the Contracting Parties (COP 22):
 - revised Mediterranean Offshore Guidelines for the Conduct of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)
 - amended Annexes to the Offshore Protocol;
- (3) Inform on the progress of the implementation of the Mediterranean Offshore Action Plan and the development of a comprehensive plan of actions required for its long-term sustainable implementation process;
- (4) Support sharing of best practices and lessons learnt among the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention, and other relevant international organizations, MAP partners and the private sector regarding offshore activities.

The following annotations to the Provisional Agenda were prepared by the Secretariat to assist the meeting in its deliberations.

Agenda item 1. Opening of the Meeting

3. The Meeting will open on Thursday 3 June 2021 at 0900 hours by the REMPEC Head of Office and is expected to close on Friday 4 June 2021 at 1630 hours.

Agenda item 2. Adoption of the Agenda and Election of Officers

EP/MED WG.498/1, EP/MED WG.498/2/Rev.1, EP/MED WG.498/Inf.1/Rev.1

a) Rules of Procedure

4. The rules of procedure for meetings and conferences of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean and its Protocols will apply *mutatis mutandis* to the present meeting (UNEP/IG.43/6, Annex XI).

b) Election of Officers

5. Subject to Rule 20 of the rules of procedure mentioned at para. 2(a), the meeting will elect from among the representatives of the Contracting Parties, a President, three Vice-Presidents and a Rapporteur.

c) Adoption of the Provisional Agenda

6. Subject to Rule 14 of the rules of procedure mentioned at para. 2(a), the proposed agenda (EP/MED WG.498/1) and annotated in the present document (EP/MED WG.498/2/Rev.1) will be reviewed and proposed for adoption by the meeting, including the timetable contained in the Annex to the present document.

d) Organization of Work

7. Sessions are scheduled from 09:00 to 12:00 and 13:30 to 17:00 on 3 June 2021 and from 09:00 to 12:00 and 13:30 to 16:30 on 4 June 2021.

8. The working languages of the Meeting will be English and French. Simultaneous English/French/English interpretation will be provided during the Meeting. All working documents will be available in both official languages of the Centre, i.e. in English and in French. Information documents will be available in their original language unless a translation is provided in the second working language.

9. The participants will be invited to review and adopt the meeting conclusions and recommendations, amended as appropriate, drafted by the Rapporteur. The report of the meeting will be prepared and circulated for adoption after the meeting.

10. The meeting may consider establishing working groups at the end of day 1 to address specific issues that remain unresolved during the plenary sessions.

Agenda item 3. Finalization of the Offshore Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Guidelines
EP/MED WG.498/3

11. Under this agenda item, the Secretariat will present the revised Mediterranean Offshore Guidelines for the Conduct of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) under document EP/MED WG.498/3 for the consideration of the meeting. The Meeting is expected to review the proposed draft and provide feedback with the view to having it finalized and submitted to MAP Focal Points Meeting and for COP 22 consideration.

Agenda item 4. Amendment of the Annexes to the Mediterranean Offshore Protocol
EP/MED WG.498/4

12. Under this agenda item, the Secretariat will present the proposed Amended Annexes to the Offshore Protocol under document EP/MED WG.498/4 for the consideration of the meeting. The Meeting is expected to review the proposed draft and provide feedback with the view to having it finalized and submitted to MAP Focal Points Meeting and to COP 22.

Agenda item 5. Progress on the implementation of the Mediterranean Offshore Action Plan
EP/MED WG.498/5, EP/MED WG.498/5/Corr.1, EP/MED WG.498/Inf.4

13. After the introduction by the Secretariat of document EP/MED WG.498/5 Progress on the Implementation of the Mediterranean Offshore Action Plan, the Contracting Parties will be invited to update the Meeting on the progress achieved since the 2nd OFOG meeting held in 2019, highlighting achievements as well as challenges with regards to the implementation of the Mediterranean Offshore Action Plan.

Agenda item 6. Comprehensive Plan of Actions and PoW 2022-2023
EP/MED WG.498/6

14. Under this agenda item, the Secretariat will present the draft comprehensive plan of actions, including the resource mobilization strategy under document EP/MED WG.498/6.

15. The Meeting is expected to provide feedback and guidance to the Secretariat on the next steps to be undertaken in establishing a sustainable process for the implementation of the Offshore Protocol, and the inclusion of relevant activities into the Programme of Work 2022-2023, laid down in EP/MED WG.498/6 Annex III to be submitted to COP 22. The Meeting will be also requested to prioritize the topics for training as listed in Appendix 2 of the Mediterranean Offshore Action Plan (Decision IG.22/3).

Agenda item 7. Conclusions and Recommendations
EP/MED WG.498/7

16. The Meeting will be invited to examine and comment the conclusions and recommendations, as amended by the Meeting and documented under EP/MED WG.498/7.

Agenda item 8. Any Other Business

17. Under this agenda item, the participants and the Secretariat will be able to raise any other business related to the subject of the meeting.

Agenda item 9. Closure of the Meeting

18. The Chair will close the Meeting at 16:30 hours on 4 June 2021.

Proposed timetable

Thursday, 3 June 2021		
08:30 – 09:00	Registration of participants	
09:00 – 09:30	Agenda Item 1: Opening of the Meeting Agenda Item 2: Adoption of the Agenda and Election of Officers	EP/MED WG.498/1 EP/MED WG.498/2/Rev.1 EP/MED WG.498/Inf.1/Rev.1
09:30 – 10:15	Agenda Item 3: Finalization of the Offshore Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Guidelines	EP/MED WG.498/3
10:15 – 10:30	<i>Break</i>	
10:30 – 12:00	Agenda Item 3: Finalization of the Offshore Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Guidelines (Cont.)	EP/MED WG.498/3
12:00 – 13:30	<i>Lunch break</i>	
13:30 – 15:00	Agenda Item 4: Amendment of the Annexes to the Mediterranean Offshore Protocol	EP/MED WG.498/4
15:00 – 15:30	<i>Break</i>	
15:30 – 17:00	Working groups to finalize EIA guidelines and Amendments to Annexes (if required)	EP/MED WG.498/3 EP/MED WG.498/4
Friday, 4 June 2021		
09:00 – 10:15	Agenda Item 5: Progress on the implementation of Mediterranean Offshore Action Plan	EP/MED WG.498/5 EP/MED WG.498/5/Corr.1 EP/MED WG.498/Inf.4
10:15 – 10:30	<i>Break</i>	
10:30 – 11:00	Agenda Item 5: Progress on the implementation of Mediterranean Offshore Action Plan (Cont.)	EP/MED WG.498/5 EP/MED WG.498/5/Corr.1 EP/MED WG.498/Inf.4
11:00 – 12:00	Agenda Item 6: Comprehensive Plan of Actions and PoW 2022-2023	EP/MED WG.498/6
12:00 – 13:30	<i>Lunch break</i>	
13:30 – 14:30	Agenda Item 6: Comprehensive Plan of Actions and PoW 2022-2023 (cont.)	EP/MED WG.498/6
14:30 – 15:30	<i>Break</i>	
15:30 – 16:30	Agenda item 7: Conclusions and Recommendations	EP/MED WG.498/7
16:30	Agenda item 8: Any Other Business Agenda item 9: Closure of the Meeting	