

NON-PAPER

for discussion and finalization at the UfM WG on ENV and CC

(afternoon session November 12)

This non-paper is to serve as basis for the elaboration of a concept note on a potential 2nd UfM Ministerial Meeting on Environment and Climate Change, to be advanced to the UfM Senior Officials 2019, as per attached tentative calendar.

This non-paper reflects and integrates the priorities for actions identified at the UfM Task Force on Environment, held in January 2018 in Jordan, as reflected in the Agreed Conclusions and at the 6th UfM Climate Change Expert Group held in April 2018, and in the UfM Climate Change Expert Group Work Program (2017-2022).

The draft proposal, as further detailed below, is based on the achievements of the 1st UfM Ministerial Declaration and aims at calling for a 2nd UfM Environment and Climate Change Ministerial Meeting in order to receive the political endorsement - through a 2nd Ministerial Declaration - on the strategic directions agreed by the 43 Member countries on the UfM post 2020 environment and climate change agendas, namely on

- the launching of a new [...H2030...¹] Initiative to “*further enhance actions to support the transition towards a Circular Economy, including on plastics, with special attention to marine litter, as priority issues*” and “*Ensuring continuity and enhancement of pollution reduction and prevention and sustainable consumption and production actions*”, “building on achievements of the H2020 Initiative on a Cleaner Mediterranean region and Sustainable Consumption and Production programs;
- taking into full consideration the adoptions of the Paris Agreement (PA) and its Work Program in the UfM Climate Action agenda, as well as its links with the Sustainable Development Goals (notably SDG 13 Climate Action, at the regional level.

Moreover, the 2nd Ministerial Declaration will have to integrate and further detail elements of the UfM Roadmap for Action adopted by the UfM Ministers of Foreign Affairs, on 23 January 2017 in Barcelona².

¹ The provisional name « H2030 Initiative» has been suggested at the UfM Task Force on Environment, held in Jordan in January 2018.

² <https://ufmsecretariat.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/UfM-Roadmap-for-action-2017.pdf>

PROPOSAL FOR A 2ND MINISTERIAL MEETING

Context and background

Policy developments: the 1st UfM Ministerial Declaration on Environment and Climate Change – Athens, May 2014

- The first UfM Ministerial Declaration on Environment and Climate Change (hereinafter the Declaration) was adopted in Athens on 13 May 2014³. Through this joint Declaration, the 43 UfM Ministers expressed the urgent need to join forces and make a substantial change of approach on environmental matters, moving from ‘de-pollution to pollution reduction and prevention’ within a wider shift towards green/circular/low carbon economy; and broadening the scope of action to the wider Mediterranean region. This change of approach was reflected, by the decision to “reinforce the package of actions in support of the Mediterranean green/circular economy/low emission agenda”, including three new interlinked main axes of work namely:
 - The H2020 Initiative for a Cleaner Mediterranean (widening the scope of action to issues beyond the sea; previously called H2020 Initiative for the De-pollution of the Mediterranean Sea), tackling industrial pollution, municipal waste and urban wastewater (marine litter and hazardous were added in 2014 as emerging issues)
 - Sustainable Consumption and Production and green/circular economy
 - Climate Change adaptation and mitigation.

Moreover, biodiversity and ecosystem protection, integrated maritime policy, marine/maritime spatial planning, integrated coastal zone management, awareness and education for sustainable development, governance and stakeholder involvement were also highlighted as areas for closer cooperation and integration in the above approach. Desertification and land degradation were also included as issues of relevance.

- The 2014 Declaration was adopted before:
 - the finalization of the Sustainable Development Goals in 2015. Nonetheless, the Declaration was already very much in line and anticipating the SDGs, including SDG 12 Responsible Consumption and Production⁴. for the first time “sustainable consumption and production”. The Ministerial Declaration is therefore directly relevant for various Sustainable Development Goals namely SDG 12 Responsible Consumption and Production, SDG 13 Climate Action, SDG 14 Life below water, SDG 15 Life on land, and it strongly contributes to others such as SDG 8 Decent Work and Economic Growth, SDG 9 Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure, SDG 11 Sustainable cities and communities.
 - The 2014 Declaration was also adopted before the Paris Agreement. But Ministers, in this text, reiterated “their full determination to work together towards the adoption of a global, ambitious, fair and legally binding international agreement in Paris in 2015”;

³ http://ufmsecretariat.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/20140515_UfM_declaration_FINAL_compromiseeditorial-changes.pdf

⁴ Referred to as “Sustainable Consumption and Production” in the 2014 Ministerial Declaration

- The UfM was still to become official observer to the 3 Rio Conventions

UfM ENV and CC -UfM bodies/operational tools

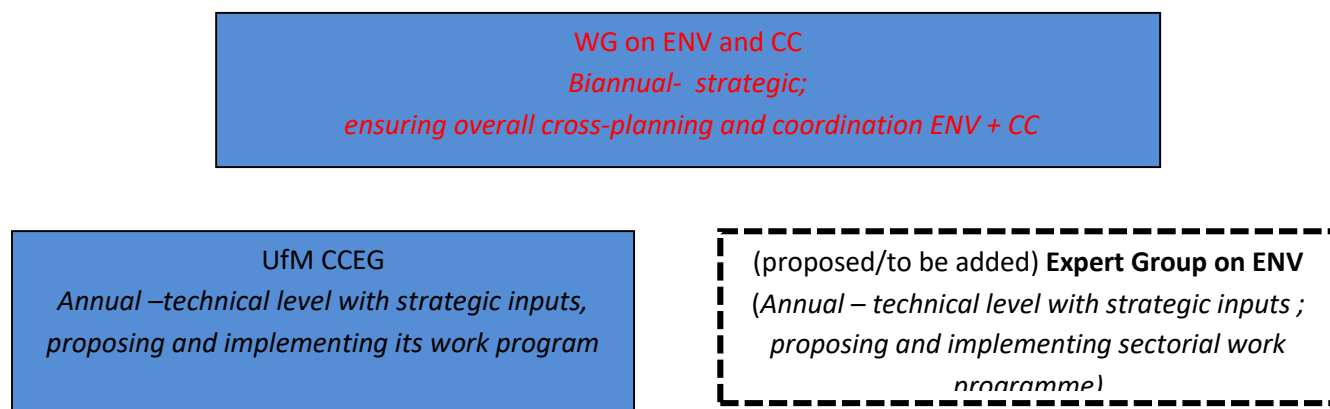
- In order to assess progress in the implementation of the agreed recommendations, the Declaration envisaged a specific mechanism: “Ministers invite high level experts and officials to meet regularly, at least every two years, and where appropriate in synergy with other regional meetings dealing with environment or climate issues, as long as such meetings remain relevant, in the form of a UfM Working Group on Environment and Climate Change (hereinafter the UfM Working Group) to follow-up on this Declaration and assess the progress made...”.
- Consequently, the UfM Working Group on Environment and Climate Change (WG on ENV and CC) held its first meeting on the 14-15 March 2017. On that occasion, member countries agreed to meet on an annual basis up to next Ministerial, tentatively planned for 2020 in order to (extract; the full version of the “Agreed Conclusions” is attached in Annex):
 - Establish priorities for action on environment and climate change in the Mediterranean region after 2020, to be the basis for a possible future Ministerial Meeting;
 - Launch an external evaluation of the implementation of the Declaration. This evaluation will contribute towards defining priorities, operational modalities and the work programme post-2020;
 - Set up a Task Force on Environment (TF on ENV) to facilitate the transition towards the post 2020 agenda on environmental action in the Mediterranean region and identify the regional priorities ahead. The TF will meet on an annual basis, possibly back to back with the H2020 steering committee;
 - Convene the WG on ENV and CC in 2018 to take stock of the work of the TF on ENV and the UfM Climate Change Expert Group (CCEG) and to look towards a potential Ministerial Meeting in 2019 or 2020;
 - Reinforce coordination at regional and national level between complementary actions implementing the objectives of the Declaration with a view to enhancing implementation where possible;
 - Ensure that programs fully cover the whole region to enable the full participation of all Mediterranean countries in the programs;
 - Reinforce the package of actions [define] in support of the Mediterranean green/circular economy/low emission agenda; in line with the relevant SDGs, better integrate, socio-economic aspects with emphasis on job creation dimension, youth, women;
- The 2nd Working Group on ENV and CC met on the 12 November 2018, back to back with the TF Environment and ad hoc Climate Change Expert Group meetings.

The UfM CCEG, officially established by the 2014 Ministerial Declaration on ENV and CC, held 6 meetings, prepared a Work Program (2017-2022) detailing the MD’s priorities in compliance with the Paris Agreement. This Work Program is in development.

The UfM Task Force ENV met for the first time in Jordan in January 2018 and again on the 13 November 2018, to identify the post-2020 top priorities (see box in the following section),

sketched out a timetable to next Ministerial and define the post 2020 working modalities. For ENV, it was proposed to - similarly to Climate Change - set up a stable UfM ENV Expert Group.

Scheme showing the proposed future set up



The relevant documents of the WG on ENV and CC (2018 and 2017) and the ENV Task Force and CC Expert Group are attached in Annexes 1, 2, 3, 4,5.

Implementation of the 2014 UfM Ministerial Declaration on ENV and CC

Following on the assessment done of the implementation of the 2014 UfM Ministerial Declaration on ENV and CC, including the results of the External Evaluation, requested by countries in 2017, the state of play can be summarized as follows:

- The UfM ENV Task Force is working towards defining/fine-tuning priorities, operational modalities and the post-2020 work programme; which will need Ministerial endorsement;

The historical Euro-Mediterranean/UfM H2020 Initiative (2007-2013 Phase 1; 2014-2020 Phase 2) on a “Cleaner Mediterranean Sea” is coming to an end in 2020 and its Work Plan is being completed.

The 2nd phase of H2020, run between 2014 and 2020, was framed under the UfM Ministerial declaration and became part of a wider package of actions progressively integrating depollution with pollution prevention/sustainable consumption and production actions as well as with climate change, to build the basis of the so called “*green/circular/low-carbon economy*” package. Within this overall framework and due to the urgent need for action, marine litter and plastics have gained attention and become a top priority.

The results of the different components of the H2020 Initiative are being consolidated.

The first phase of Sustainable Consumption and Production actions/programmes (SwitchMED and MED/RESCP) have just closed and are entering another cycle of programming.

Biodiversity is being progressively mainstreamed and addressed through concrete projects, in particular, through the UfM labelled and EU funded Plastic Busters Project, focused on Marine Protected Areas and the FAO promoted, UfM labelled and Germany funded forestry project indicated here below; a more consolidated partnership with the PANACEA horizontal programme is being set up;

Desertification/land degradation and drought are advancing through the expansion of the Drought Initiative to other Med countries willing to join, and by contributing to the UNCCD study (requested by the UNCCD 2017 COP) on desertification/land degradation and drought as one of the drivers of migration; land restoration is being promoted through the FAO UfM labelled project *Scaling up forests and landscape restoration in order to restore biodiversity and promote joint mitigation and adaptation approaches in the Mediterranean*, addressing the Bonn challenge, the Aichi Targets and the UNFCCC objectives. An MoU with the UNCCD Secretariat was signed in 2018.

So, while ensuring consolidation and capitalisation of the H2020 Initiative for a Cleaner Mediterranean and /other relevant initiatives and programmes, a proposal for a new “H2030 Initiative” on circular economy (provisional title) is currently under elaboration through a dedicated environment online group. The “H2030 initiative” is expected to address the key set of post 2020 priority environmental issues which need collaboration in the Mediterranean region. It will constitute a new initiative reflecting a renewed vision and the developments since 2014.

- The UfM CCEG is working on its adopted work program, which main objective aims at supporting the implementation of the Paris Agreement and the preparation of their nationally determined contributions by providing an accurate understanding of the UfM regional context and of possible synergies and complementarities among the national policies and measures in the region.

On the specific objectives, the UfM CCEG:

1. Establishes a systematic exchange on respective national climate policies of the UfM region in order to identify best practices and possible synergies and complementarities in the preparation of their respective national mitigation actions and adaptation measures. A first Regional Analysis on NDCs is currently being finalized, and Studies on Climate Change impacts on Agriculture on the one hand, and one Tourism on the other hand have been developed.
2. Develops cooperation among international financial institutions and other donors actives in the UfM region to enhance the coordination and delivery of financial resources to support country-driven strategies. The UfM Climate Finance Study (“International public climate finance in the Mediterranean- Overview 2016”), include updated and more complete data. A draft roadmap is also under discussion with the stakeholders, in order to enhance the access to Climate Finance for SEMed countries.
3. Promotes regional science-based consensus on climate impacts in the UfM region, especially on the Mediterranean basin. In connection with the work of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) at the global scale, and in line with the UfM MD ENV-CC, the UfM supports the preparation of a more precise

assessment of the impacts of climate change on the Mediterranean basin. In this regard, following the signature of the Memorandum of Understanding with Plan Bleu (Regional Activity Center of UNEP MAP) in December 2017, the UfM Secretariat has awarded a contract for a technical assistance to the MedECC (Mediterranean Experts on Climate and environmental Change) network. The 1st Report, with a Summary for Policy-Makers, is under preparation and will be finalized in 2020; a Booklet on “Risks associated to climate and environmental changes” has already been published. Coordination mechanisms have been set in place, and more concrete actions will be implemented in 2019.

4. Exchanges views around the specific concerns of the Euro-Mediterranean region regarding climate change in international fora, especially in the UNFCCC. The COP22 granted the observer status to the UfM in 2016. Since then, the UfM is entitled to organize and has organized side-events, as observer, during every COP, and attended the negotiations’ sessions and many UNFCCC meetings (such as the Standing Committee on Finance -SCF- meetings). Finally, a MoU has been signed with UNFCCC at COP 24.

In that regard, the participation of the UfM at the UN Climate Summit organized in September 2019 back-to-back to the UN General Assembly is very good occasion to put forward the Euro-Mediterranean agenda at eh global level.

- The UfM Secretariat has become an observer to the 3 Rio conventions (Biological Diversity, Desertification and Climate Change) and is progressively developing joint work programs with the respective Secretariats; these activities are meant to be integrated in the post-2020 environment and climate agendas currently under discussion at technical level

Some more topics of the Ministerial Declaration have echoed and influenced other Ministerials, as follows:

- Integrated maritime policy and maritime spatial planning (as well as integrated coastal zone management) have spin off into another Ministerial Declaration, namely the 2015 UfM Ministerial Declaration on Blue Economy;
- Water issues are tackled by the 2017 UfM Ministerial on Water: biannual and multiannual plans of action are under development and 5 task forces have been set up, including on the Nexus of water, energy, food security and ecosystems, as well as on water and climate change;
- Eco-cities were addressed under the 2017 UfM Ministerial on Sustainable Urban Development.
- The 2016 UfM Ministerial Declaration on Energy.

Furthermore, given the direct involvement and territorial competences on environment and climate change, the Ministerial has also marked an important step in the involvement of local authorities as direct stakeholders/observers/beneficiaries in all UfM platforms of dialogue, projects, activities and meetings as well as key partners for actions (EASME DG MARE dedicated grant on Blue Economy; CPRM promoted and UfM labelled project Med Coasts for Blue Growth -MEDCOAST4BG)

In line with SDGs, integration of socio economic aspects (migration, urbanization, demographic growth, etc.) will be taken into account.

Objectives and priorities

- The 1st UfM Ministerial Declaration is about to complete the cycle of many of its actions and since 2018 member countries are building the path towards setting the joint priorities and work program for the UfM post-2020 agenda on environment and climate change (“Agreed Conclusions” of the 2017 UfM Working Group on ENV and CC, included in Annex).

The results of the *External evaluation the implementation of the 2014 Ministerial Declaration on Environment and Climate Change to contribute towards defining priorities, operational modalities and the work program post-2020*, requested by countries in 2017, were first presented at the 2nd WG ENV and CC and finalized based on the comments received;

- The importance of switching towards a Green, Circular, Low Carbon, Climate-resilient, Sustainable and Inclusive Economy with respect to environmental integrity is at the core of the SDGs and the Agenda 2030; the 1st UfM Ministerial Declaration has put the building stones for the Mediterranean region to join forces and make a substantial change of approach on environmental matters, moving from ‘*de-pollution to pollution reduction and prevention*’ within a wider shift towards green/circular/low carbon economy; and broadening the scope of action to the wider Mediterranean region. This change of approach was reflected by the decision to “*reinforce the package of actions in support of the Mediterranean green/circular economy/low emission agenda*”, including three new interlinked main axes of work namely:
 - The H2020 Initiative for a Cleaner Mediterranean (widening the scope of action to issues beyond the sea; previously called *H2020 Initiative for the De-pollution of the Mediterranean Sea*), tackling industrial pollution, municipal waste and urban wastewater (marine litter and hazardous were added in 2014 as emerging issues)
 - Sustainable Consumption and Production for green/circular economy
 - Climate Change adaptation, mitigation, technology transfer, means of implementation (including climate finance) and capacity building
 - Links with Disaster risk reduction (DRR) and the related Sendai framework
- However, the process needs to be further reinforced and efforts further synchronized in order to generate a virtuous circle towards a more sustainable socio-economic model of development of the entire region. A more structured involvement of other relevant ministries (economy, finance, planning, agriculture, industry, tourism, transport, etc.) is required.

Strategic direction and political endorsement at Ministerial level is therefore sought and needed to:

- promote a new culture towards sustainability supported by education, technology transfer and regulation;
- follow up on the results of latest meetings of UNFCCC, CBD and UNCCD, with a special focus on the warning coming from the 2018 IPCC special report on 1.5 degree in terms of impacts for hotspot regions like the Mediterranean;

- enhance South-south and north-south cooperation and overall regional cooperation and opportunities for collaboration.

While ensuring closer links with other relevant UfM Ministerial Declarations and related work programs (Research and Innovation, Water, Blue Economy, Transport, Urban Development, etc), and regular contacts among focal points (including periodic meetings of the Sustainable Development´s Platforms FPs), the potential 2nd Ministerial Declaration on Environment and Climate Change will aim at consolidating the environment and climate change agendas as follows, in line with the SDGs and taking into account national circumstances and, the involvement of other relevant ministries as needed

- Endorsing at Ministerial level the post 2020 environment and climate action priorities identified by the countries, with strengthened links between depollution, pollution prevention/sustainable consumption and production and climate change; focus on tighter land-sea-air aspects/interactions;
- The need to ensure synergies and complementarities between the various actions addressing environmental and climate change issues in the Mediterranean region, in line with international and regional conventions
- Mainstreaming ENV and CC in other sectors including through National Determined Contributions and Aichi targets´ processes;
- Promoting access to finance through relevant bodies and mechanisms, including joint and closer links between environment and climate action efforts/activities
- Ensure as far as possible that all Mediterranean countries can benefit from actions undertaken for the above priorities;
- Ensure stakeholders involvement, including civil society;
- Reinforce inter-ministerial coordination and aim at the direct involvement of other concerned, relevant ministries;
- Stakeholders involvement, including civil society

The WG on ENV and CC will progressively ensure that the work of the two expert groups be shared and coordinated on a regular basis to maximize synergies and mutual benefits for the purpose of joint progress.

In order to ensure a forward-looking multiannual approach to the environment work, it is proposed that an UfM Environment Expert Group be set up, similarly to the Climate Change Expert Group, as per scheme at page 4.

Based on the above, the **future UfM Expert Group on Environment as per page 4** will focus on:

- Launching the [...H2030...5] Initiative to “*further enhance actions to support the transition towards a Green and Circular Economy, including on plastics, with*

⁵ The provisional name « H2030 Initiative» has been suggested at the UfM Task Force on Environment, held in Jordan in January 2018.

special attention to marine litter, as priority issues” and “Ensuring continuity and enhancement of pollution reduction and prevention and sustainable consumption and production actions, “ building on the conclusions and consolidation of results of the H2020 Initiative on a Cleaner Mediterranean region and the SCP program; as well as promoting incentives for SCP solutions

The H2030 Initiative will mark a new advanced phase of cooperation among countries, programs and UfM ENV -CC focal points; the UfM Secretariat will promote and facilitate synergies among the activities, stakeholders, partners, beneficiaries falling under this umbrella initiative; and include as well the following priorities, initially identified at the TF on Environment of January 2018 (included in Annex):

- Continuation and enhancement of the Capacity Building activities on environmental matters;
- Further support the implementation of the Mediterranean Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development;
- consolidate environmental monitoring and assessment capacities;
- Promoting landscape restoration/sustainable land management with links to desertification/droughts;
- Enhancing environmental governance and stakeholders participation and engagement;
- Ensuring support to the governance reforms needed to promote the transition towards a circular economy
- Continue supporting ecosystem based management and the role of protected areas in biodiversity protection in the Mediterranean, in terms of technical support to the development of a more coherent network of Marine Protected Areas in the Mediterranean, in terms of ecological and socio-economic asset as well as in terms of nature-based solutions supporting adaptation and mitigation to climate change;
- Environmental mainstreaming in relevant sectors will also take place through National Determined Contributions, as well as reinforced collaboration with UNCCD and CBD;
- Facilitating access to finance
- Proposing the formalization of the already existing UfM Environment Task force; *[tbd if ToRS to be included as annex to the ministerial concept note]*

The main topics agreed as priority for consideration and integration in the UfM post 2020 environment agenda are presented in detail in Annex. They were approved by the ENV TF in January 2018, confirmed and further elaborated by the *WG on ENV and CC held in Barcelona in November 2018* and TF on ENV.

(UfM ENV EG ToRS to be prepared)

The **UfM Climate change expert group (CCEG)** will focus on:

- Together with the (to-be-set up) UfM ENV Expert group, Further enhance actions to support the transition towards a Green, Circular, Low Carbon, Climate-resilient, Sustainable and Inclusive Economy, by:
- Mainstreaming Climate action in relevant sectors notably through the development of common approaches linked with the Nationally Determined Contributions, under the Paris Agreement (and and its Work Programme);
- Reviewing and updating consequently the UfM CCEG Operational Modalities and Work Program (2017-2022), notably in respect and delopment of the UfM Roadmap for Action, and its activities, namely:
 - Sharing of experience on national measures,
 - Cooperation among financial institutions,
 - Science-based consensus on climate impacts,
 - Addressing regional concerns in international fora.
- Promoting access to Climate finance through the existing bodies and mechanisms (notably within the UfM Regional Climate Finance Committee), including joint and closer links between climate action and all relevant sectors.
- Taking into account the Memoranda of Understanding signed with UNFCC and UNWMO at COP 24 and all other relevant MoUs (with IEA, OSCE,...).

Suggested date and venue

The suggested date for this UfM Ministerial Meeting would be in 2020, upon agreement by the UfM Co-Presidency and the Senior Officials. The venue is currently being looked at and would be agreed through the UfM Senior Officials meetings.

The tentative calendar up to the next Ministerial has been updated and is attached herewith.

ANNEXES

ANNEX 1

2nd UfM Working Group on Environment and Climate Change, November 2018, Barcelona

FINAL AGREED CONCLUSIONS

The UfM Ministerial Declaration on Environment and Climate Change (hereinafter the Declaration) adopted in Athens on 13 May 2014 called for a specific monitoring mechanism in the implementation of the aforementioned Declaration. The first UfM Working Group on ENV and CC met on 14-15th March 2017.

Following the agreed conclusions of the 1^o WG, the 2nd UfM Working Group on Environment and Climate Change took place on the 12th of November 2018 in Barcelona and gathered country representatives and regional stakeholders to discuss the following issues:

- ✓ *the priorities for action on environment and climate change in the Mediterranean region after 2020, to be the basis for a declaration at the proposed 2nd Ministerial Meeting;*
- ✓ *The draft final report of the external evaluation on the implementation of the Declaration to contribute towards defining priorities, operational modalities and the work programme post-2020.*

More in detail, the WG on ENV and CC:

- welcomed the External Evaluation of the Ministerial declaration as a contribution to the preparation of the 2nd Ministerial meeting on ENV and CC; participants agreed to provide additional comments to complete/enrich the evaluation by the **30 of November 2018**;
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- The draft evaluation should be complemented/fleshed out with examples of specific “achievements”;
- Agreed on the proposal to hold a 2nd UfM Ministerial Meeting on Environment and Climate Change, possibly in 2020;
- Agreed that the Non-Paper discussed provides the basis for the identification of the priorities to be included in the Ministerial declaration, based on the work of the January 2018 UfM TF ENV and the April 2018 UfM CCEG;
- Requested an update of the Non-Paper on the basis of the comments expressed at the UfM Working Group on ENV and CC on the 12th November, at the UfM TF on ENV and the 2018 UfM CCEG on 13th of November, and any further comment provided to the UfM Secretariat **in writing by the 30th of November**, with a view to preparing a concept note on the proposed ministerial to propose to UfM Senior Officials Meeting in early 2019;
- Called for a regular UfM Expert Group on Environment to be set-up;
- Agreed on the proposed tentative calendar and process towards the Ministerial Meeting on ENV and CC;
- Welcomed the participation of the representatives of the UN organisations partners of the UfM, regional stakeholders, and their willingness and offers to contribute and participate in projects and activities under this framework ;

- As per point 4 above, to integrate in the Non-Paper the priorities and points raised during the Task force meeting as well as any further comment submitted before the 30th of November;
- Follow the scenario proposed in the External evaluation by the independent consultant (GLOBALCAD) whereby the Ministerial declaration would be accompanied by the skeleton/concept note of the future Initiative post-2020 (*“the H2030 Initiative”*);
- Set up a dedicated online group of willing member states and partner organisations to discuss and draft a preliminary proposal on a future “H2030 Initiative” to be presented at the UfM Task Force in early 2019, with a view to have it endorsed, if so agreed by Ministers at the Ministerial meeting in 2020
- Proceed with the consolidation of the H2020 Initiative final results, in the form of a report integrating the main outcomes of the components as well as the key facts and figures emerging from the 2nd H2020 indicator based assessment
- Elaborate the draft ToR of the UfM Environment Expert Group, in view of the final approval at the Ministerial;

The UfM Climate Change Expert Group’s Work program (2017-2022) general objective was reiterated: it is to support all UfM Member States in the implementation of the Paris Agreement and the preparation of their Nationally Determined Contributions by providing an accurate understanding of the UfM regional context and of possible synergies and complementarities among the national policies and measures in the region. With its four main activities (sharing of experience on national measures, cooperation among financial institutions, science-based consensus on climate impacts, addressing regional concerns in international fora), this Work Program remains fully valid and very pertinent, and shall be reviewed and updated according to the future Ministerial Declaration. New topics (green growth and decarbonisation, climate security) could be also be integrated in this Work Programme.

These conclusions, as well as all relevant documents produced by the Working Group (notably the External Evaluation) shall be forwarded to the UfM Senior Officials.

ANNEX 2.

1st UfM WG on Environment and Climate Change (WG on ENV and CC) – Final Agreed Conclusions on the Way Forward 15th March 2017, Barcelona

Following the recommendations of the UfM Ministerial Declaration on Environment and Climate Change (hereinafter the Declaration) adopted in Athens on 13 May 2014, calling for a specific monitoring mechanism in the implementation of the Declaration (“Ministers invite high level experts and officials to meet regularly, at least every two years, and where appropriate in synergy with other regional meetings dealing with environment or climate issues, as long as such meetings remain relevant, in the form of a UfM Working Group on Environment and Climate Change (hereinafter the UfM Working Group) to follow-up on this Declaration and assess the progress made...”), the first UfM Working Group on ENV and CC met in Barcelona on 14-15th March 2017.

The WG on ENV and CC discussed progress in the implementation and the future activities in relation to the 2014 UfM Ministerial Declaration on ENV and CC in terms of:

1. Key highlights and major issues to be tackled, and
2. Main priorities and actions for post-2020 and the possibility of a future UfM Ministerial Meeting.

The following suggestions on the way forward emerged and the WG agrees to:

- Establish priorities for action on environment and climate change in the Mediterranean region after 2020, to be the basis for a possible future Ministerial Meeting;
 - Launch an external evaluation of the implementation of the Declaration. This evaluation will contribute towards defining priorities, operational modalities and the work programme post-2020;
 - Set up a Task Force on Environment (TF on ENV) to facilitate the transition towards the post 2020 agenda on environmental action in the Mediterranean region and identify the regional priorities ahead. The TF will meet on an annual basis, possibly back to back with the H2020 steering committee;
 - Convene the WG on ENV and CC in 2018 to take stock of the work of the TF on ENV and the CC Expert Group and to look towards a potential Ministerial Meeting in 2019 or 2020;
 - Reinforce coordination at regional and national level between complementary actions implementing the objectives of the Declaration with a view to enhancing implementation where possible;
 - Ensure that programs fully cover the whole region to enable the full participation of all Mediterranean countries in the programs;
 - Reinforce the package of actions [define] in support of the Mediterranean green/circular economy/low emission agenda; in line with the relevant SDGs, better integrate, socio-economic aspects with emphasis on job creation dimension, youth, women;
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- Consider the importance of reintroducing the ‘Horizon 2020 Coordination Mechanism’ (to ensure consolidation of results; stronger coordination; overall communication and visibility)
 - Synchronize as far as possible the components of the H2020 initiative;

- Ensuring as far as possible no funding gap of the h2020 components during the implementation of the H2020 initiative;
- Further support the operationalisation of an effective regional information system based on solid national information system and promote integrated environmental approaches;
- Better link the H2020 initiative as well with research initiatives (H2020 R+I, Bluemed, PRIMA....)
- Promote the long-term development of the existing PRPI Road Map with IFIs; Ensure the full involvement of partner institutions and donors for the work of the PRPI group to be efficient; accelerate advancing/launching/operationalising of the H2020 investment flagship projects;
- Promote as much as possible the alignment of existing/new facilities and programs with the revised National Action Plans for depollution priorities for project development and financing;
- Urge countries to better coordinate at national level and engage all relevant ministries and institutions
- Ensure geographical balance of flagship projects within the Mediterranean region.

SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION (SCP)

- Ensure maximum support to the full implementation of the Regional Action Plan on Sustainable Consumption and Production and of the National Action Plans in countries that have already adopted them; promote the elaboration and adoption of National Action Plans in the remaining countries;
- Building on the successful results of the ongoing regional programmes, consider the importance of having adequate financial resources beyond 2018 to keep up the momentum created at regional level by the SwitchMed Programme; scale up thematically and geographically the existing efforts into a set of longer term expanded actions, including access to financing and facilitation of SCP/RE related investments, so as to consolidate the critical mass of regional and local capacities necessary to support the move toward SCP and green/circular economy models;
- Accelerate implementation of activities under the DRIVE Fund in the Western Balkans; Promote establishment of new, similar donor funds to facilitate access to financing for SMEs and green entrepreneurs adopting SCP practices in the entire Med.
- Link with broader policies of support to business development, employment and SMEs

CLIMATE CHANGE (CC)

Following the assessment of the implementation of the UfM Ministerial Declaration on Environment and Climate Change, the UfM Co-Presidency took note of the following comments expressed during the First Working Group on Environment and Climate Change:

1. UfM Member States recalled the importance of the UfM Climate Change Expert Group for climate policy dialogue in the region.
2. Within the mandate given by the 2014 Ministerial Declaration, UfM Member States assessed the work of the UfM Climate Change Expert Group, in particular in the context of the Paris Agreement and the challenge of its implementation.
3. In order to deliver more tangible outcomes and improve its effectiveness, UfM Member States agreed to revise the operational modalities of the UfM Climate Change Expert Group.

4. UfM Member States took note of the proposed revised operational modalities and work program 2017-2022 prepared by the UfM Secretariat upon request by the UfM Co-presidencies and after written consultation of UfM Member States. They provided in particular the following recommendations:

- a) They underlined the need to clarify the composition of the UfM Climate Change Expert Group, improve its effectiveness and strengthen the continuity of its action.
- b) They underlined the need for meetings focusing on precise issues, in order to mobilise relevant experts and produce tangible outcomes. However, these should remain ad hoc meetings and no new permanent committees or sub-groups should be created.
- c) The UfM Secretariat will submit to the 5th meeting of the Climate Change Expert Group a revised version of the draft operational modalities and Work Programme.

- On the science-policy interface

UfM Member States welcomed the willingness of the scientists gathered within the MedECC network to contribute to the vulnerability assessment of the Mediterranean regarding climate and environmental impacts on relevant sectors.

Given the cross-sectoral nature of the MedECC project and its strong environmental dimension, any possible UfM contribution to the MedCC activities shall be elaborated in an inclusive way, by involving jointly the Environment and Climate Change representatives of the UfM Member States and in coordination with all relevant UfM structures. The project should report back to the WG on Environment and Climate Change.

- On environment and climate investments:

UfM Member States welcomed the work of the Regional Finance Cooperation Committee for Climate Action and invited international financial institutions and donors to work together towards a better identification of climate finance gaps and needs in the region (and explore how to facilitate access to climate finance).

OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

Marine Protected Areas (MPAs)

- Promote the creation of new MPAs, including in the open seas, where possible to reach the established Aichi target 11;
- Support more effective, equitable and efficient management of existing MPAs by 2020 through more financial and human means available for MPAs as well as through long-term capacity-building and networking at Mediterranean level;
- Further support the establishment of the MPAs Trust Fund (call for more countries to join), building on the lessons learned from other well-established regional conservation trust fund delivering conservation to marine areas around the world;
- Strengthen and develop the role of MPAs as a marine spatial management tool in supporting ecosystem-based adaptation and mitigation to climate change.

Bern Convention in particular Larnaka and Tunis Action Plan

Ensure adequate country engagement in actions under the intergovernmental task force on illegal killing of birds;

Integrated Maritime Policy/Blue Economy

- Contribute to the preparation of the possible 2nd Ministerial Meeting on Blue Economy;;
- Optimize and fully operationalize the existing Virtual Knowledge Centre as a stakeholder register and networking platform;
- Contribute to the Initiative on Sustainable Development of the Blue Economy in the Western Mediterranean as well as to the other relevant initiative on blue economy;
- Expand the Bluemed Initiative to other Southern and Eastern Mediterranean countries willing to join;
- Further promote maritime spatial planning /integrated coastal zone management as governance and management tool (ensuring sea land interaction);
- Maximize the involvement of relevant stakeholders (including in the organisation of the 1st Regional Stakeholders Conference)

Eco-cities

- Welcome and support the 2nd UfM Ministerial Conference on Sustainable Urban Development in 2017
- Promote the upcoming edition of the Jordan-led Eco Cities Forum as a regional platform

ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE CHANGE GOVERNANCE AND STAKEHOLDER INVOLVEMENT

- At regional level, progress on the adoption of multi stakeholders/participatory approaches (NGOs, academia, private sector, etc.), progressively extending to local authorities;
- Increased coordination among funding programs around common/shared priorities (e.g. environment and climate funding; cooperation among EU funding programs; etc)

INCREASED AWARENESS AND EDUCATION

- Stress the importance of working to increase awareness and education on environmental and CC issues, including by supporting the implementation of the Action Plan of the Mediterranean Strategy on Education for Sustainable Development;

ENSURING IMPLEMENTATION OF REQUIRED ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE INVESTMENTS

- Better integrate newly established IFIs green and climate funds to serve environmental de-pollution and pollution prevention investments;
- Activate the newly established UfM Regional Finance Cooperation Committee for Climate Action (RFCCCA);

- Address environment and climate investments through the closer involvement of all concerned national authorities, including the Ministries of Finance/Economy/Planning

PROPOSAL FOR EMERGING DOSSIERS TO BE FURTHER INTEGRATED IN ORDER TO SUPPORT THE OVERALL OBJECTIVES AND WORK OF THE MINISTERIAL DECLARATION

Take note of the potential for:

- Integration/association of the overall Mediterranean Forestry/Silva Mediterranean frameworks to address desertification, water, biodiversity, sustainable land management, climate mitigation/adaptation as well as contribute to promoting SCP business models, job creation and green investments;
- to promote closer involvement of local and regional coastal administrations through the Bologna Charter (the charter of the Regions for the promotion of a common framework for strategic actions aimed at the protection and sustainable development of the Mediterranean coastal areas). The Bologna Charter is open to more Southern & Eastern coastal administrations of the Mediterranean to join on a voluntary basis.

Final general point

Countries are requested to provide the Secretariat with indications on the national progress in the implementation of the Declaration as well as recommendations for the post 2020 agenda in written briefings by the end of March 2017.

ANNEX 3.

UfM Task Force on Environment, Jordan, January 2018 FINAL AGREED CONCLUSIONS

The main topics agreed as priority for consideration and integration in the UfM post 2020 environment agenda

FINAL AGREED CONCLUSIONS - UfM Task Force on Environment, Jordan, January 2018

The “Agreed Conclusions” of the meeting of the UfM Task Force on Environment include:

Support for proposal of holding a UfM Ministerial Meeting Environment and Climate Change on late 2019 or early 2020 with the adoption of a Declaration;

Proposed meeting in November 2018 of the Working Group on Environment and Climate Change to update on the proposed timeline;

Voluntary contributions from countries with updates on their national progress on actions undertaken including challenges, gaps and priorities under the 2014 Ministerial Declaration can still be submitted by the end of February 2018 to the UfM Secretariat;

Potential Ministerial Declaration could address the following points:

- ✓ Further enhance actions to support the transition towards a Circular Economy, including on plastics, with special attention to marine litter, as priority issues;
- ✓ Ensuring continuity and enhancement of pollution reduction and prevention and SCP actions under a potential H2030 initiative, building on achievements of the H2020, in line with the SDGs, and in close cooperation with the Barcelona Convention;
- ✓ Continuation and enhancement of the Capacity Building activities building on the achievements of SWIM-H2020 SM;
- ✓ Further efforts for the implementation of the Mediterranean Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development;
- ✓ Continuing supporting the switch towards sustainable consumption and production;
- ✓ Access to finance for ENV, including SCP, and CC as well as incentives to promote SCP solutions;
- ✓ Actions to consolidate monitoring and assessment capacities;
- ✓ Landscape restoration/sustainable land management with links to desertification/droughts;
- ✓ Stronger links and coordination with CC, through strengthened coordination between ENV and CC FPs;
- ✓ Formalize within the Ministerial Declaration the creation of a regular UfM Environment Expert Group;
- ✓ Enhancing environmental governance and stakeholders participation and engagement including thru public participation, and involvement of NGOs and local authorities;
- ✓ Mainstreaming ENV and CC in other sectors notably through NDCs;

- ✓ Ensure as far as possible that all Mediterranean countries (including Western Balkan countries - Bosnia & Herzegovina and Montenegro - and Turkey) can benefit from actions undertaken for the above priorities;
- ✓ Continue supporting ecosystem based management and the role of protected areas in biodiversity protection in the Mediterranean, in terms of technical support to the development of a more coherent network of Marine Protected Areas in the Mediterranean, in terms of ecological and socio-economic asset as well as in terms of nature-based solutions supporting adaptation and mitigation to climate change;
- ✓ Strengthened focus on land-sea-air interactions, within an integrated management approach;
- ✓ The need to ensure synergies and complementarities between the various actions addressing environmental and climate change issues in the Mediterranean region.

ANNEX 4

UFM Climate Week main conclusions (Barcelona – 23-25 April 2018)

Reminder: The Mediterranean region is one of the world's climate change hotspots where the rise of average temperature by 1.5°C, compared to pre-industrial levels, the lower limit not to be surpassed as agreed through the Paris Agreement, is already being exceeded.

During the UfM Climate Week (23-25 April), UfMS organized:

- **two specialized meetings** with representative of co-presidencies and major stakeholders:

+ one **scientific** (around 20 participants): we managed to have the participation of a co-chair of one of the three IPCC working group, which allows us to make the link between the global scientific network and the regional one; the meeting was also for us the occasion to **launch the technical assistance we bring to the MedECC network, and that will last until end of 2020;**

+ one on finance (25 participants, including EIB, UN Capital Development Fund and UNFCCC representatives): results of the Updated Climate Finance study Overview 2016, with final data compilation, were presented (**the SEmed countries received 8.3 Blns USD in 2016, compared to 6.8 Blns USD per year on the period 2013-2015**) ; UfMS had prepared and presented during the meeting a Draft Roadmap for the UfM Regional Climate Finance Committee;

- **one ad-hoc sectoral meeting** with representatives of co-presidencies, countries and major stakeholders (FAO and CIHEAM notably): the first results of studies on Climate Change and the sectors of Tourism and Agriculture in the ENI South Region (Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia) were presented, commented and discussed; both studies aim to support these UfM Member States of in discussing their national policies and measures related to the integration of climate change issues in tourism and agriculture.

- All these three specialized meetings were focusing on activities of the **Work Program of the UfM Climate Change Expert Group (2017-2022)**. During the UfM CCEG meeting (**more than 50 participants**), main conclusions, decisions and next steps were discussed:

+ A **first Draft report of MedECC** will be published before end of November;

+ The **final report of one of the Sectoral studies will be presented during a regional workshop**, to be organized back-to-back with the Working Group on Environment and Climate Change;

- + UfM Climate Finance study is the contribution of UfM to the UNFCCC Biennial Assessment on Climate Finance, and was briefly presented during the **Forum of the Standing Committee on Finance** (South Korea, 1st week of July).
 - + A presentation from **UNFCCC Secretariat (on Talanoa Dialogue)**, and a **workshop on Climate Finance Needs and Access**, were very much appreciated by countries' representatives.
 - + Presentations by DGNEAR of the next **"EU for Climate Action in the ENI countries"**, and the **European External Investment Plan** (which include many climate-specific projects and programs) were very welcomed by all participants.
 - + Some of these elements will be used for **UfMS participation for COP 24**.
- In respect of the 1st Ministerial on Environment and Climate Change, the meeting was also the occasion to highlight **several climate-dedicated or climate-specific projects**:
 - + in the process of **UfM Labelling**;
 - + **Innovative solutions from the private sector and the business community**: Energy Observer and the World Alliance for Efficient Solutions (some initiatives from Southern countries identified during the Business Forum were included in the presentation);
 - + the **initiative of OSCE on Climate Change and Security**: a shared approach should lead to a common project and publications in 2019.
 - the UfMS hosted the second **Mediterranean Youth Climate Network (MYCN)** General Assembly meeting. MYCN updated the UfMS on their activities and strategy for 2018-2019. The MYCN President presented the network and their activities during the UfM CCEG meeting.
 - Finally, the pathway towards the **second Ministerial** (beginning of 2020) was presented; the important milestone of a common Working Group meeting (date to be confirmed: 12 November 2018) was discussed.

ANNEX 5

Co-Presidency Proposal Work program 2017-2022 of the Union for the Mediterranean Climate Change Expert Group (UfMCCCEG)

7th April 2017

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Context

UfM Roadmap

UfM Ministers of Foreign Affairs adopted a Roadmap in Barcelona on 24 January 2017, shaping the overall objectives of the UfM. This Roadmap is making a clear commitment to use the UfM framework “*to better highlight the Euro-Mediterranean region’s contributions to the global agenda and interlink Mediterranean regional action with the Global Sustainable Development Goals, taking fully into account as well the contribution that this work can make in addressing the current global challenges facing the region. The transversality of global issues such as climate change, environment and water and urban development will continue to be addressed by the UFM, based on a cross sectoral inclusive approach.*” It therefore reiterates the synergies between the new Sustainable Development Goals, which were adopted during the United Nations Sustainable Development Summit 2015 on 25-27 September 2015 in New York (USA) and climate policies, as expressed in the UfM Ministerial on Environment and Climate Change.

International climate agenda

The Paris Agreement is now setting the pace of the international climate agenda. In line with the commitments made under the UfM Ministerial Declaration on Environment and Climate Change, adopted in Athens in March 2014, UfM Member States have been actively involved in the adoption of the Paris Agreement. All UfM Member States have signed the Paris Agreement and all have ratified or are engaged in the process of ratification of this Agreement, which entered into force on 4th November 2016.

The Paris Agreement sets a long-term goal for global climate action and establishes a number of binding requirements for all Parties. These include *the preparation and communication of nationally determined contributions and the periodic review of these and the associated measures; the development of long-term low-carbon development strategies; adaptation, capacity building, finance and technology transfer*. The Agreement includes a mention of regional, bilateral and multilateral approaches.

The decision related to the Paris Agreement⁶ clearly calls to support countries in the preparation of their nationally determined contribution (par. 15). It is stressed that this should be done by developed countries and “*any other organisations in a position to do so*”. The UfM, bringing together developed and developing countries, has received the mandate to do so, through the 2014 UfM Ministerial Declaration on Environment and Climate Change.

Objectives

General objective

The general objective of this work program of the UfM CCEG is to support all UfM Member States in the implementation of the Paris Agreement and the preparation of their nationally determined contributions

⁶ The document related to the Paris Agreement is structured around:

- (i) a decision of 20 pages which explains the content of the Paris agreement and
- (ii) an annex (the Paris Agreement itself) of 11 pages, which defines the commitments of the Parties and establishes the relevant bodies under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to implement the Paris Agreement

by providing an accurate understanding of the UfM regional context and of possible synergies and complementarities among the national policies and measures in the region.

Specific objectives

The specific objectives of this work program are:

1. To establish a systematic exchange on respective national climate policies of the UfM region in order to identify best practices and possible synergies and complementarities in the preparation of their respective national mitigation actions and adaptation measures.
2. To develop cooperation among international financial institutions and other donors active in the UfM region to enhance the coordination and delivery of financial resources to support country-driven strategies
3. To promote regional science-based consensus on climate impacts in the UfM region, especially on the Mediterranean basin.
4. To exchange views around the specific concerns of the Euro-Mediterranean region regarding climate change in international fora, especially in the UNFCCC.

Organisation/bodies

In line with the operational modalities, the UfM Climate Change Expert Group is in charge of ensuring the implementation of this work program. More precisely, the UfM Co-Presidency, as UfM CCEG co-chair, should ensure the follow up of activities, with the support of the UfM Secretariat.

In order to implement this work program, existing UfM regional dialogue platforms should be involved, such as the UfM Climate Change Expert Group, the Regional Finance Cooperation Committee for Climate Action (RFCCCA) or other UfM platform (UfM Energy Platform, UfM Water expert group, H2020 Steering Committee, etc.). Moreover, the co-presidencies can decide, in consultation with members of the Climate Change Expert Groups, to convene ad hoc meetings in order to implement specific items of this work program or respond to newly identified needs.

The UfM CCEG

The UfM Climate Change Expert Group should meet once a year to:

- Assess the progress made under each activity described under section 0 and take decision on potential update of the work program.
- Receive information by the UfM Secretariat on climate-related projects labelled by the UfM as well as, where appropriate, climate-related projects under development.

The UfM Climate Change Expert Group is composed of national focal points appointed in accordance with the operational modalities, as well as observers appointed in line with the operational modalities.

Regional Finance Cooperation Committee for Climate Action (RFCCCA)

The Regional Finance Cooperation Committee for Climate Action (RFCCCA) is composed of all International Financial Institutions and donors active in climate finance in the UfM region. The UfM Climate Change Expert Group can provide a mandate to the RFCCCA to address any issue related to climate finance.

Interactions with other UfM platforms

Outputs provided by other UfM platforms of regional dialogue, especially the UfM Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Platform, the UfM Electricity Market Platform, the UfM Gas Platform, the UfM Water Expert Group and other relevant UfM Environment platforms of dialogue, including the ones related to the H2020 Initiative, could serve the implementation of the work program.

Therefore, the UfM Secretariat should look for synergies among the work program of the UfM CCEG and the work program of other UfM platforms and ensure the flow of information between these bodies and the UfM CCEG.

Ad hoc meetings under the UfM Climate Change Expert Group

Ad hoc meetings under the UfM CCEG can take place to address specific activities of this work program or newly identified needs during the 2017-2022 period. Participants in these meetings should be technical experts having a field of expertise relevant for delivering the outcome of the activity considered, and/or the members of the CCEG, on a case by case basis.

The ad hoc meetings will report to the UfM CCEG. The UfM Climate Change Expert Group may then provide new orientations on the work performed. Chairmanship and secretariat of these ad hoc meeting should be defined on an ad hoc basis for each activity even if, by default, operational modalities of the UfM CCEG will apply.

Activities

Activity 1: Sharing of experience on national measures

This activity aims to provide exchange of information and best practices on national climate measures related to mitigation and adaptation.

A general discussion can take place at the UfM Climate Change Expert Group. In addition, when the need is identified by the CCEG, ad hoc meetings may be organised in order to allow for more detailed discussions on specific sectors.

The ad hoc meetings should bring together UfM Member States government representatives with relevant expertise. These experts could exchange on national policies related to climate mitigation and adaptation. The following sectors, i.a., could be considered for the potential creation of such meetings:

- Energy
- Transport
- Buildings
- Industrial activities (excluding tourism)
- Tourism
- Agriculture and Fisheries
- Coastal and blue economy
- Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF)
- Waste

- Water

The role of local authorities and the private sector should be considered in a transversal manner under these topics, when possible.

The list may be adjusted by the UfM Climate Change Expert Group according to the priorities and issues raised by UfM Member States.

The meetings should aim to allow in-depth understanding of climate policies by peers. A special attention may be given on how to enhance synergies among national climate policies.

When deciding to establish such a meeting, the UfM Climate Change Expert Group should determine the desired output. The UfM Secretariat will produce a meeting report and communicate it to the UfM Climate Change Expert Group together with proposals for follow-up.

The experts participating in these meetings should be appointed by UfM CCEG Members. Observers may be admitted, pending on the approval of the UfM CCEG Members.

Expected deliverable:

- Identification of one or two areas in which some UfM Member States are willing to develop a regional or sub-regional framework or initiate a cooperation project (for example, cooperation on strategy-building and target-setting on the development of zero-emissions vehicles, cooperation on carbon pricing mechanisms, cooperation on GHG emissions reduction measures for maritime transport in the Mediterranean Sea, cooperation on cross-border adaptation measures, etc.)
- Following each meeting, a document or report should be produced by the UfM Secretariat

Activity 2: Cooperation among financial institutions

This activity aims at:

- Providing an overview on the amount of climate financing delivered in the UfM region, in the view to contribute to identifying the remaining gaps and needs.
- Assessing the current areas of actions of IFIs and donors, especially by providing a clear overview of the current financial instruments available and by identifying flagship projects from which best practices can be showcased, in order to enhance synergies among financial instruments and, if necessary, to complement their current offerings, taking especially into account the risk sharing and specific needs to support country-driven strategies.
- Identify specific gaps / needs

The already existing Regional Finance Cooperation Committee for Climate Action (RFCCCA) will advise this activity.

This committee is chaired by the UfM Secretariat.

The work of this activity will be organised as follow:

- Regarding climate financing in the UfM region,
 - a. A preliminary assessment should be performed by the UfM Secretariat

- b. This assessment will be presented to UfM CCEG and/or relevant committee to be discussed next steps implementation.
- c. Every year, once previously presented to the RFCCA Members, the assessment of the amount of climate financing delivered in the UfM Region will be presented to UfM CCEG Members in order to receive feedback to improve the assessment.

Once a year, the chairman will report to the UfM CCEG Members on the outcome of this activity.

Expected results:

- Annual or biannual report on the use of climate finance in the Mediterranean
- Cooperation towards the design of a regional instrument addressing key climate challenges of the Euro- Mediterranean region

Activity 3: Science-based consensus on climate impacts

The activity aims to provide a sound and comprehensive scientific basis for the development of nationally determined contribution of at least one macro-ecosystem of the UfM region.

The UfM region (which includes 43 countries from the Polar Circle to the Sahara and from the Atlantic Ocean to the Caucasus) is composed of several macro-ecosystems. In order to develop proper climate policies, it is key to understand how these macro-ecosystems will react to climate change.

The Mediterranean basin, gathering 22 out of the 43 UfM Member States, is playing a central role for the UfM Region. Therefore, this work program will focus its work on the assessment of climate-related environmental changes of the Mediterranean basin.

In order to facilitate the delivery of the assessment report, this activity is expected to rely mainly on the work that will be produced by MedECC, a network of scientists of the region.

Given the cross-sectoral nature of the MedECC project and its strong environmental dimension, the UfM contribution to the MedECC activities shall be elaborated in an inclusive way, by involving jointly the environment and climate change representatives in UfM members and in coordination with all relevant UfM structures. The project should report back to the WG on Environment and Climate Change.

Moreover, to increase synergies with other regional organisations, a close interaction will be ensured with the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD) within the UNEP/MAP-Barcelona Convention system, pending on the approval of the UNEP/MAP.

The chairmanship and the secretariat should be defined in such way that it will reflect such interactions. Once a year, the chair will report to the UfM CCEG Members on the outcome of this activity.

A first assessment should be delivered before the ad hoc meeting on science-policy interface and updates will be provided on a frequency to be defined by the committee in agreement with the scientists.

Where appropriate, similar assessment applied to other macro-ecosystems of the UfM region, such as, for example, the mountainous region (Balkans, Atlas, etc.) or arid areas, could be explored.

This activity could gather representatives of UfM Member States interested in the assessment of climate related environmental changes in the Mediterranean basin.

Expected results:

- Assessment report of the climate related impacts in the Mediterranean, to be considered by the scientific community and policy makers.

Activity 4: Addressing regional concerns in international fora

This activity aims to support the exchange of views around the specific concerns of the Euro-Mediterranean region regarding climate change in international fora, especially in the UNFCCC.

To this end, should it be required, an ad hoc meeting under the UfM Climate Change Expert Group may be organised to discuss climate related issues raised in the context of the UNFCCC or any other international fora (such as IMO or ICAO) relevant for the UfM region.

National UNFCCC Focal Points, members of UNFCCC negotiation teams or other experts with appropriate experience are encouraged to participate in these ad hoc meetings.

The UfM Secretariat will report to the UfM CCEG Members on the outcome of this activity.

At least one month in advance of this ad hoc meeting, the UfM Secretariat will share discussion papers, based on the agenda established by the co-chairs, in consultation with the UfM CCEG Members.

Upon the approval of the UfM CCEG Members, conclusions of ad hoc meeting may be drafted by the co-chairs to be shared with relevant international fora.

Expected results:

- Exchange of views on potential areas of common interest

Tentative planning of activities

All dates are indicative, pending confirmation and indication of availability of participants.

Year	Date	Event
2017	16 March	5 th UfM Climate Change Expert Group
	June	Regional Finance Cooperation Committee for Climate Action
	September	Ad hoc meeting under activity 1
	6-17 November	COP23 / Ad hoc meeting of the UFM CCEG under activity 4
2018	February	6 th UfM Climate Change Expert Group

Projects and initiatives related to the work program

The UfM Climate Change Expert Group, being the platform of regional dialogue on climate change for UfM Member States, is one component of the general UfM mandate. The other component of the UfM mandate relies on project promotion.

To ensure proper synergies between regional dialogue and project promotion, and in line with the operational modalities of the UfM CCEG, the UfM Secretariat will keep UfM CCEG Members informed about projects labelled by UfM and having an impact on climate change.

The UfM Secretariat will in particular continue to support the development of projects related to capacity building. It will also remain open to support any project of regional interest aiming at enhancing climate education, training, public awareness, public participation and public access to information, as well as supporting the strengthening of cooperative action on technology development and transfer.

Reporting

Once a year, for each activity mentioned in this work program, the UfM Secretariat will report to the UfM CCEG on progress made.

At least 4 months before the 7th UfM CCEG foreseen under this work program, the UfM Secretariat will provide a mid-term assessment of the work performed under this work program. This assessment will serve as basis for the UfM Co-Presidencies to provide orientations on possible adjustments of the work program.

At least 6 months before the last UfM CCEG foreseen under this work program, the UfM Secretariat will provide an assessment of the work performed under this work program. This assessment will serve as basis for the UfM Co-Presidencies to provide orientations on the next work program, in line with the UfM CCEG Operational Modalities.