

**TEMPLATE FOR
PREPARING WORK PLAN BY THE NOMINATED STOCKHOLM
CONVENTION CENTRES**

Name of the Regional Centre: Regional Activity Centre for Cleaner Production

Work plan submitted by:

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This work plan¹ covers the period from 1st January 2010 to 31st December 2011

1. Introduction and Background

Since the Stockholm Convention entered into force, most of the Mediterranean Countries have joined as parties, thus adopting its obligations.

The Mediterranean Countries belong to four different United Nations regions: Africa, Asia, Central and Eastern Europe and Western Europe. This complicates the implementation of joint activities or programmes in the regions, due to cultural and geographic diversity.

The LBS protocol that recently entered into effect under MAP provides a useful base for a Mediterranean cooperation of POPs. In this context, Article 16 of the first report of the Global Monitoring Plan on evaluating the effectiveness, concludes: *"To maintain monitoring activities, future programmes should include continued collaboration among strategic partners in all regions and the establishment of a network of regional laboratories using harmonized protocols for the monitoring of persistent organic pollutants. Opportunities for cross-regional cooperation, in particular for geographic regions which cut across more United Nations regions (e.g. the Mediterranean), should be explored"*.

Until now, the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) was the only programme linking these four different regions. This is a programme under the auspices of UNEP, designed to coordinate the implementation of the Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution (Barcelona Convention). The Regional Activity Centre for Cleaner Production (CP/RAC), as a unit of the Mediterranean Action Plan, has many years' experience working with Mediterranean countries promoting

¹ Note: Once a nominated Stockholm Convention Centre is endorsed by the COP it will need to prepare a work plan for the biennium, i.e. for the period 1 January 2010 – 31 December 2011.

pollution prevention as well as an established network of partners along the Mediterranean rim. Since being appointed as Nominated Centre for the Stockholm Convention, CP/RAC is enhancing the tools to assist countries in meeting their obligations under the Stockholm Convention.

The present work programme aims to provide technical assistance to the Parties of the Stockholm Convention in the Mediterranean Region, in a continuation of the work programme for 2008-2009 in which the centre has initiated several activities in application of the Convention.

CP/RAC aims to continue working on raising awareness on the sound management of chemicals, focusing on harmful substances and hazardous wastes and addressing environmental problems, thus minimizing the impact of POPs on the environment and on human beings.

Another goal for the 2010/2011 two-year period is to increase the cooperation with other relevant Agreements on chemical management, such as the Rotterdam and Basel Conventions, as well as the Strategic Approach for International Chemical Management, taking advantage of the synergies and promoting joint activities.

Moreover, as COP IV is approaching, CP/RAC is considering the possibility of future updates of the Convention, such as the inclusion of new chemicals, etc. In which case, the centre aims to assist the countries in meeting their new obligations.

2. Goals and Objectives:

1. Goal/s

- To assist countries in fulfilling their obligations under the Stockholm Convention.
- To provide coordination and cooperation with other relevant International Agreements.
- To promote the cooperation with other Stockholm Convention centres.
- To encourage the sound management of harmful substances and hazardous wastes.
- To encourage cooperation in long-term monitoring of POPs.
- To disseminate the use of cleaner production technologies.

2. Objectives

- To promote the transfer of information between Parties.
- To assist countries in carrying out activities related to the implementation of the Convention.
- To promote the implementation of Article 16 of the Global Monitoring Program and the monitoring of POPs in waste and products.

- To promote the establishment of joint activities with Stockholm Convention Centres.
- To promote the establishment of joint activities with Basel Convention Centres.
- To assist countries in implementing activities in synergy with the Stockholm, Basel and Rotterdam Conventions.
- To promote awareness and training on the need for the sound management of chemicals.
- To assist countries in applying better technologies and practices for the reduction of wastes.

3: Constraints and Resources:

Constraints:

As above-mentioned, the Mediterranean Region spans four of the United Nations Regions, which involves additional problems for standardizing or compiling data and for carrying out regional programmes.

Moreover, the First Regional Monitoring Report of WEOG Region for the effectiveness evaluation of the Convention concludes that there is a low level of information regarding POPs in many parts of the Mediterranean rim. It is therefore recommended that channels be explored for enhancing long-term cooperation in monitoring POPs in the Mediterranean Region, to improve the information base for future effectiveness evaluations of the Convention.

The lack of information in the Mediterranean rim affects the decision-making process of the countries, as they cannot gauge their real situation with regard to POPs needs and it is also difficult to establish trends for future performances.

Resources:

CP/RAC has many years of experience in implementing activities for the management of chemicals and in working with Mediterranean countries. And as a result, there is a wide network of well-established focal points in the Region that collaborate with the centre.

CP/RAC has a qualified technical staff in addition to expert consultants.

Furthermore, the centre has the collaboration of its Partners, most of which are involved in international projects regarding the management of chemicals.

4: Strategy and Activities/Projects

- Support countries in the development and enforcement of relevant national legislations

The first step for the sound management of chemicals is to establish a relevant policy involving all stakeholders.

CP/RAC aims to support decision-makers in developing and enforcing the national legislation on POPs management and in improving its effectiveness.

- Promote the adoption of measures to avoid unintentional releases of POPs and the reduction of wastes, by applying BATs and BEPs

The activity aims to make industries aware of their possible gains by implementing environmentally sound processes to reduce the generation of wastes as well as minimize unintentional releases of POPs.

- Promote the sound management of wastes as well as the elimination of obsolete stocks of POPs

CP/RAC is involved in the GEF funded project of Environmentally Sound Management of Equipment, Stocks and Waste containing or contaminated by PCBs in National Electricity Companies of Mediterranean Countries.

It is a five-year project that will be implemented in Lebanon, Albania, Egypt, Libya and Syria and in which CP/RAC will be responsible for subsection 2.3.3 for "Raising awareness on the importance of the environmentally sound management of equipment containing PCBs" and 2.3.4 for "Technical capacity for the environmentally sound management of equipment containing PCBs".

- Assistance in the implementation of NIPs

As a continuation of the activity started in 2008 when a GEF Profile was being prepared, the aim for 2010/2011 is to develop the proposal and implement the activities in the participatory countries, which are: Lebanon, Morocco, Syria and Tunisia.

- Capacity building programmes in chemical management

The activity aims to involve all stakeholders in the implementation of the Sound Management of Chemicals, by raising awareness and increasing the implementation of capacity building programmes as well as promoting training on the sound chemical management of harmful substances and hazardous wastes.

- Assist countries in updating waste generation data

The aim of this activity is to assist countries in updating the data on POPs, in order to facilitate the transfer and treatment of information.

- Increase monitoring programmes of POPs and heavy metals.

Following the recommendations in Article 16 of the GMP on the effectiveness evaluation of the Convention, CP/RAC aims to assist countries in developing long-term monitoring programmes of POPs, in order to create an updated database for the effectiveness evaluation of measures implemented by countries pursuant to the Convention.

- Assist countries to implement SAICM

In order to foster cooperation with a Strategic Approach for International Chemical Management, CP/RAC aims to assist countries in developing a National Profile.

The implementation of the activity will provide the integration of the sound management of chemicals in the national development planning processes.

- Promote the gradual replacement of very harmful substances with less harmful or harmless ones

This activity pursues the uses of more environmentally responsible substances in Mediterranean countries.

- Raise awareness on the state of Mercury in Mediterranean Countries

This activity intends to raise awareness and promote sound management practices with regard to Mercury in the Mediterranean countries, and to help Mediterranean Action Plan countries with the preparation of legally binding programmes and action plans in the framework of the LSB protocol of the MAP.

- Joint Planning and joint implementation of activities

CP/RAC aims to promote cooperation with other relevant centres.

- Exchange information on common issues

The aim of this activity is to share efforts with other relevant institutions and centres for the implementation of the Stockholm Convention.

5: Appendices, including budget and schedule

Appendix 1: Budget

Appendix 2: Schedule

Appendix 3: Parties being served by the centre during the period covered by the work plan

Appendix 4: Ongoing projects, funding sources, partner agencies

A.
Explanatory note for
Preparing work plan by the nominated Stockholm Convention centres

The Work Plan

The Centre's work plan for delivering technical assistance and technology transfer under the Stockholm Convention should contain following elements:

1. Introduction and Background (The Problems);
2. Goals and Objectives (The Outputs);
3. Resources and Constraints (The Inputs);
4. Strategy and activities (from Inputs to Outputs);
5. Appendices (Budget, Schedule and others).

Each of these elements of the work plan is interlinked

- The background identifies the problem(s); then
- The goal defines solution(s); then
- The objectives (outputs) refine the goals, specific and verifiable; then
- The resources and constraints indicate what can and cannot be used to reach the objectives; and then
- The strategy, along with specific or precise activities, indicates how the inputs will be converted to outputs.

1. The Introduction and Background

Introduce your work plan limiting to the material relevant only to the period covered by the work plan. Mention briefly what problems/issues relating to the implementation of the Convention will be addressed by your centre based on the needs identified in the national implementation plans. For example,

- *there is no POPs monitoring capacity in the region, or*
- *there is no enforcement capacity among the Parties for the implementation of the Convention, or*
- *there is no technology available for the environmentally sound disposal of POPs contaminated wastes in the region, etc-*

2. Goals and Objectives:

Define the goals for your work plan as solutions to the problems raised in the *Introduction and Background* section. For example, *setting up the monitoring capacity for POPs in the region* could be the goal for your centre.

However goals are normally broader and lack discreteness, hence they are further defined by the objectives as how these goals are going to be met. For example what issues are to be addressed for setting up the monitoring capacity in the region, such as,

- *to strengthen existing laboratories/setting up new laboratories for monitoring POPs in "x" media in "y" number of Parties within "z" year (time and space specific);*
- *to establish environmental standards for POPs in different media in for "x" number of Parties in the region by "y" year,*
- *to establish a network for inter laboratory collaboration in the region by the "z" year, etc.*

Objectives therefore should be Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic and Time-Bound (SMART).

3: Constraints and Resources:

The Constraints would mean any restrictions or hindrances that must be overcome in order to reach the objectives. For example,

- *the lack of awareness on the need for a monitoring programme*
- *lack of commitment from the environmental authorities, etc.*

Include also a short description of how you plan to overcome them.

Resources would mean the inputs that will contribute to achieve the selected objectives. When relevant list the core expertise of the centre under resources. For example,

the professional staff and other personnel, partners (organizations and individuals), consultants, equipment, other inventory of your centre that can be mobilized (inputs) in reaching the identified objectives (outputs), for example, to strengthen existing laboratories/setting up new laboratories for POPs monitoring in selected media in “x” Parties in the region within “y” year. Financial resources could be appended to the work plan as supporting document when they are referred to in the plan.

If you want, you can also classify your resources (expertise) into different categories,

- Area where the centre has advantage over others in assisting Parties
- Area where the centre has adequate skills and knowledge in assisting Parties
- Area where the centre is developing its expertise and not yet ready in assisting Parties
- Professional staff
- Equipment and
- Other important resources

4: Strategy and Activities

The Strategy should indicate how you intend to convert your resources, overcome the constraints, using those identified inputs (resources) to reach the objectives or attain the outputs specified earlier. For example,

- *assessing the capacity of existing laboratories for POPs monitoring,*
- *organizing seminars/ programmes among the environmental authorities, academia, technical partners, etc.*

Activities/projects are derived from the strategy (*e.g., assessing laboratory capacity*).

Activities identify how the inputs are to be converted to outputs. For example

- *equipping the laboratories for POPs analysis,*
- *preparing standard operating procedure for sampling and analysis;*
- *training for the analysts;*
- *establishing quality assurance/ quality control methods;*
- *arrangements for accreditation of the laboratories, etc.*

Each activity listed in this section should be related to one of the outputs (objectives, goals), and it should be clear how the described activities will contribute to reaching its respective objective.

5: Appendices including budget and schedule

The purpose of appendices is to provide further details such as budget and schedule of the projects.

B.

Checklist for preparing project proposals to be funded by the financial mechanism under the Convention

(The following issues must be taken into account and ensure consistency with criteria set forth in the annexes to the decision SC-1/15 by the centres while establishing their work plan or preparing project proposals for funding by the GEF or other financial entities).

1. Eligibility

1.1 Are all the Parties included in the project proposal eligible for receiving technical assistance pursuant to the Guidance on Technical Assistance and Technology Transfer set forth in the decision SC-1/15?

Yes No

1.2 Is the project consistent with the Guidance to the Financial Mechanism set out in the decisions SC-1/9, SC-2/11 and SC-3/16?

Yes No

2. Party ownership

2.1 Was the project developed upon the request from the eligible Parties?

Yes No

2.2 Was the proposed project identified in the NIPs of the respective Parties?

Yes No

2.3 If yes, do they fall into the national implementation priorities?

Yes No

ANNEX 1

BUDGET²			
	Spanish Government Contribution	Catalonian Government Contribution	GEF ³ Contribution
2010	460.109,38€	118.246,27€	100.000\$
2011	460.109,38€	118.246,27€	100.000\$
TOTAL	920.218,76€	236.492,54€	200.000\$

² Annual Budget for Chemical Management Area

³ Other GEF Profiles are being prepared, subject to approval.

APPENDIX 2. SCHEDULE

Political Relevance	Activities	Expected Results	Performance Indicators	Associated partnerships, initiatives
Stockholm Convention LBS Protocol	Supporting countries in the accomplishment of relevant national legislations	Countries implement their environmental obligations	Number of assisted countries	MEAs Secretariats UNITAR
Dumping and LBS Protocol Stockholm Convention	Promoting the adoption of measures to avoid unintentional releases of POPs and reduction of wastes by applying BATs and BEPs	Reduction of harmful substances and hazardous wastes in the environment	Number of published material and seminars	National Cleaner Technology Centres
Stockholm Convention Basel Convention LBS Protocol	Promoting the sound management of wastes as well as the elimination of obsolete stocks of POPs	Reduction of POPs present in the environment	Number of workshops Published material	GEF UNEP/MAP-MEDU MEDPOL BCRC Egypt
Stockholm Convention LBS Protocol	Advising Mediterranean countries in the carrying out of the NIP	Improved capacity building for sound management of chemicals	Number of fulfilled countries priorities	GEF Stockholm Convention Focal Points
LBS Protocol Stockholm Convention SAICM	Capacity building programmes on chemical management	Improvement of human resources capacities and capabilities in	Number of workshops and training sessions.	UNITAR Stockholm Convention centres

		relevant national institutions.		
LBS Protocol Stockholm Convention	Assisting countries in updating waste generation data.	Increased capacity for decision makers	Number of studies and inventories on waste generation	UNITAR Stockholm Convention centres NGOs
LBS Protocol Stockholm Convention	Increasing monitoring programmes of POPs and heavy metals.	Increased capacity to manage chemicals	Inventories Amount of data collected	Stockholm Convention centres MEDPOL Ministry of Environment of Spain
LBS Protocol Stockholm Convention SAICM	Assisting countries to implement SAICM	Planning of national processes for the sound management of chemicals	Number of countries implementing SAICM	UNITAR
LBS Protocol Stockholm Convention	Promoting the progressive substitution of very harmful substances for others that are less harmful or harmless.	Reduction of production, use and release of harmful substances	Number of published material	Cleaner Technology National Centres
Relevant MEA LBS Protocol	Joint planning and joint implementation of activities	Efforts shared for better coordination Multidisciplinary activities implemented	Number of agreements established Number of joint activities implemented	MEAs Secretariats Stockholm Convention Centres BCRCs UNITAR UNEP

Relevant MEAs LBS Protocol	Exchanging information on common issues.	Improved access to relevant information	Number of information networks	MEAs Secretariats UNITAR UNEP Stockholm Convention Centres BCRCs
LBS Protocol Stockholm Convention	Awareness campaign to target groups: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Industrial and business associations - NGOs - The Media 	Countries awareness of tools available for sound management	Workshops Conferences	National Cleaner Technology Centres MEAs Secretariats

APPENDIX 3

Parties being served by RAC/CP
ALBANIA
ALGERIA
BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA
CROATIA
EGYPT
LEBANON
LIBYA
MALTA
MONTENEGRO
MOROCCO
SLOVENIA
SYRIA
TUNISIA
TURKEY

ANNEX 4

FUNDING SOURCES

- Government of Spain. Ministry of the Environment.
- Government of Catalonia.
- UNEP
- GEF

PARTNER AGENCIES

- UNITAR
- ASCAME
- BUSINESSMED
- RECETOX and other Nominated Centres
- Basel Convention Centres
- National Focal Points of Mediterranean Action Plan
- National Focal Points for Cleaner Technology