

**UNITAR NATIONAL CAPACITY BUILDING  
FOR THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA  
FOR THE PREVENTION OF MARINE POLLUTION  
FROM LAND BASED-SOURCES**

**ZADAR , CROATIA , 1 to 3 December 2003**

**“ ZADAR AGENDA 27 “**

*The participants in the above meeting,*

*Bearing in mind* the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea done in Montego Bay on 10 December 1982, and in particular its Article 192 which prescribes “*States have the obligation to protect and preserve the marine environment*”;

*Recalling* the Mediterranean Action Plan (M.A.P) and in particular the Barcelona “system” (the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols) to which the Republic of Croatia is a Contracting Party;

*Aware* of relevant Environmental Instruments, Directives and Principles of the European Union and of Croatia's application for membership of this Union;

*Taking into account* such general principles of international environmental law as the *prevention principle, the polluter pays principle, the precautionary principle, the cooperation principle and the access to information principle*;

*Noting* the increasing recognition of the interrelationship of protection of the marine environment and achievement of sustainable development as stated in the amended Barcelona Convention (1995);

*Appreciating* the unique characteristics of the Croatian coastline;

**RECOMMEND**

1. Establishing coordination mechanisms for implementation, including implementation of international agreements (providing better informing of relevant Authorities concerning their tasks and the possible solutions, guidelines...).

2. Distribute responsibilities to other stakeholders and ensure funds and forms of technical and other assistance.
3. Ensure public participation.
4. Improve capacity implementation of local government by enhancing its education.
5. Improve regional cooperation between Croatia with neighbouring Countries.
6. Take into account so called “soft law” (Declaration of Genoa, Chart of Nikosia, Rio Declaration and Agenda 21, Med Agenda 21...) dealing with sustainable coastal management.
7. Ratification and implementation of international legal instruments dealing with coastal management such as implementation of ratified Barcelona Convention and its Protocols, including amended versions and ratification of those Protocols that are not yet ratified.
8. Support the elaboration of new Protocol to Barcelona Convention dealing with integrated coastal management in Mediterranean Sea.
9. Support bilateral and multilateral agreements (Croatian-Italian-Slovenian Commission for the protection of Adriatic, RAMOGE, Adriatic-Ionian Initiative...).
10. Harmonize the Croatian legislation with E.U relevant instruments and directives, dealing with coastal management and water management.
11. Elaboration of an Integrated Coastal Master Plan for whole Adriatic consisting of sectoral master plans as well as detailed plans for implementation.
12. Take into account during the process of elaboration of Croatian environmental legislation of the best available practice examples of environmental planning.
13. Improved coordination among relevant ministries and other government bodies concerned with the marine environmental protection as well regional and local units.
14. There should be wide cooperation among concerned sectors in drafting laws and regulations as well as cooperation among concerned sectors in the drafting of strategies and plans concerning protection of the marine environment.
15. Better links should be established between the relevant bodies involved in exchanging data concerning the status of the marine environment.
16. Consideration should be given to the drafting of a single Act governing all issues concerning coastal zone management.
17. Consider the Coastal Area as a whole in relation to the status of its marine environment.

18. Sensitive and vulnerable areas of Adriatic marine environment should be identified taking accounts its receiving capacity and capacity of river basins.
19. There should be a river basin approach to management of the Adriatic Sea as a whole in relation to EU Water Framework Directive.
20. Issues to be taken into account should include the identification of the status of Adriatic Sea water quality and the responsible authorities and users.
21. Actions taken should include establishment of the background status of all sectors including agriculture, industry, tourism, health, waste disposal and fisheries.
22. Relevant protocols, laws and regulations should require reporting on a regular basis.
23. Intersectoral integration of the economic and social sectors should be developed in order to ensure appropriate environmental management and common policies.
24. The relationships between macroeconomic policy and sustainable development should be recognised.
25. The economic sector should be included as a stakeholder as well as the public and private sectors in planning and decision-making.
26. Work on integrated management of waste water, waste disposal and their impact on environment should be promoted.
27. An integrated permitting system should be introduced in conformity with the carrying capacity of the Croatian economy, in order to meet the requirements of the EU Integrated Pollution Prevention Control Directive.