



برنامج الأمم المتحدة للبيئة
UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

المكتب الإقليمي لغرب آسيا
REGIONAL OFFICE FOR WEST ASIA



**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
CONCERNING COOPERATION BETWEEN THE REGIONAL
ORGANIZATION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF THE
ENVIRONMENT OF THE RED SEA AND GULF OF ADEN
AND THE UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME**

This Memorandum of Understanding is agreed upon between the Secretary-General of the Regional Organization for the Conservation of the Environment of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden (PERSGA) and the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). It defines areas where the PERSGA and the UNEP have common interests and objectives in marine environmental problems, and in relation to these areas identifies the activities which they could jointly undertake to implement the strategies approved by the Council of PERSGA and those approved by the Governing Council of UNEP. It thus provides a framework for continuing cooperation between PERSGA and UNEP.

I. GENERAL

Building upon the long-standing cooperation between the PERSGA and UNEP and the close collaborative relationship existing between the two Organizations,

Referring to the Action Plan for the Conservation of the Marine Environment and Coastal Areas in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden, adopted by the Regional Conference of Plenipotentiaries (Jeddah, February 1982), as the general framework of cooperation between PERSGA and UNEP, within which the two Organizations closely collaborated, particularly during the preparatory phase, prior to the adoption of the Action Plan, and

Noting with satisfaction the results of the joint programming sessions held between officials of both PERSGA and UNEP during 1987-1989, which outlined possible cooperation in specific areas of mutual interest.

The two Organizations **agree** to work together to achieve the objectives of mutual interest aiming ultimately at the conservation of the marine environment and coastal areas of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden and their protection against marine pollution from different sources in the area, and they hereby **undertake** close cooperation on specific activities toward the

fulfillment of these objectives and on their continuing cooperation in general, as outlined below, the object of which is to attain results of a practical and tangible nature.

Further activities and/or projects within the activities already identified may be proposed by the Secretary-General of PERSGA or the Executive Director of UNEP, joint programming and/or projects will be agreed by both of them.

II. AREAS OF MUTUAL INTEREST AND COOPERATION

1. PERSGA and UNEP, through its integrated Water Programme and in cooperation with the Regional Office for West Asia (ROWA), will continue their cooperation on the Implementation of the Action Plan for the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden by the various ways and means which both Organizations see most appropriate for the fulfillment of the objectives of the Action Plan.
2. UNEP will assist PERSGA in the implementation of the activities specified in paragraphs 3 through 8 below.
3. UNEP will collaborate with PERSGA and other appropriate institutions in organizing scientific seminars and regional conferences, training of scientific personnel participating in joint projects, and in the publication of conference proceedings, reports and studies, and other relevant publications of PERSGA.
4. UNEP, in consultation with PERSGA, will assist national institutions participating in PERSGA programme in developing their capabilities for monitoring and assessment of marine pollution and related studies on the basis of acceptable project proposals.
5. UNEP will assist PERSGA in establishing and developing its Secretariat including the possible establishment of a trust fund, the arrangements for which are to be agreed upon between the two Organizations. Further, UNEP will provide support to PERSGA in the implementation of its programme, including public awareness activities as deemed necessary.
6. UNEP, in cooperation with other relevant agencies, will assist PERSGA in other activities related to the Action Plan, such as development of national contingency plans, establishment of mutual aid centre for combating oil pollution, regional database and

environmental analysis programme, and conservation of marine resources and critical habitats.

7. Cooperative efforts will be maintained between PERSGA and UNEP in order to ensure compatibility and comparability of data collected by various institutions in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden region within their monitoring programmes and to enable the quality control of this data and their adequate analysis and interpretation.
8. In relation to paragraph 7 above, UNEP will provide the national institutions participating in the marine pollution monitoring programmes in the region with the necessary technical support, including the provision of relevant Reference Methods, Reference Materials and training of qualified staff.

III. ARRANGEMENTS FOR COOPERATION

1. The PERSGA and UNEP will maintain a close working relationship in accordance with the provisions of this Memorandum of Understanding and such arrangements as may be agreed upon from time to time by the Secretary-General of PERSGA and the Executive Director of UNEP, for example, through regular consultations, visits and correspondence, thus enabling PERSGA and UNEP to be kept informed on the follow-up of this Memorandum of Understanding.
2. The formulation of joint PERSGA/UNEP programmes will be a continuing process. The following are some of the means by which agreed activities could be financed from sources at their disposal and within their available resources, and will be reflected in the work programme of both PERSGA and UNEP.
3. Project Proposals submitted to UNEP for consideration of financial support should be formulated according to UNEP procedures and in consultation between the respective national institutions, the implementing agency, PERSGA and UNEP.
4. In addition to the financial commitment, technical staff and expertise which will be provided directly by PERSGA from its own resources for the implementation of the programme activities, UNEP will, as appropriate, continue to provide technical support and expertise in order to assist in the implementation of the tasks mentioned in the previous paragraphs.



IV. FINAL PROVISIONS

This Memorandum of Understanding is without prejudice to agreements concluded by either PERSGA or UNEP with other organizations or programmes within the United Nations system. In implementing this Memorandum of Understanding, both Parties will recognize the constraints and obligations under each operator.

This Memorandum of Understanding will enter into effect upon its signature by both Parties. It may be terminated by either Party by giving to the other a written notice six months prior to the proposed date of termination.

(Signed)
Executive Director,
United Nations Environment
Programme (UNEP)

Ms. Elizabeth Dowdeswell

(Signed)
Secretary-General
The Regional Organization
for the Conservation of the
Environment of the Red Sea
and Gulf of Aden (PERSGA)

Dr. Nizar Ibrahim Tawfiq

Signature: *E. Dowdeswell*

Date: *96-04-13*

Signature: *[Signature]*

Date: *Apr. 13, 1996*