



Association MedPAN  
C/o Parc National de Port Cros  
Castel Sainte Claire  
83418 - HYERES cedex

For the attention of the President and /or person  
concerned

March 20, 2009

Object: Invitation to join the MedPAN Association

Dear Madam, Sir

Since 1990, the MedPAN network has sought to bring together the managers of Mediterranean marine protected areas (MPAs) and to support them in their management activities. From 2005 onwards the network's activities gained new momentum under the impetus of WWF, which undertook to coordinate the INTERREG IIIC MedPAN. The MedPAN website [www.medpan.org](http://www.medpan.org) includes more information about the activities of the network.

At the request of Mediterranean MPA managers, the **network has been given a permanent status in the form of an association established under the 1901 law in November 2008** by 9 founding members from 6 Mediterranean countries, the list of which you will find attached.

As stated in the statutes (attached) the purpose of the association is to **promote the creation, perpetuation and operation of a Mediterranean ecological network of marine protected areas.**

It thus contributes to achieving the specific objectives fixed by the Convention on Biological Diversity (Rio de Janeiro, 1992) to create and maintain comprehensive national and regional systems of well managed and ecologically representative marine protected areas, that collectively, inter alia through a global network, contribute to achieving the three objectives of the Convention as well as that of significantly reducing the present rate of biodiversity loss on the global, regional, national and sub-national levels. It also contributes to the **implementation of the Barcelona convention** and in particular its protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean (Barcelona, 1995) that, under the auspices of the Mediterranean Action Plan and the Regional Activities Centre for Specially Protected Areas encourages countries to establish and manage specially protected areas, to implement research programmes and exchange of scientific and technical information, to prepare management plans and design cooperation programmes. The association can contribute to any other convention, agreement or initiative that pursues the same objective.

To achieve its purpose, the association intends to particularly pursue without being limited thereto, the following means of action.

- **Promotion and coordination of exchanges between members** and partners of the MedPAN network
- Management, **coordination or participation in projects** related to marine protected areas.
- Provision of support to the **creation of new marine and coastal protected areas** in the Mediterranean



- Setting up of scientific monitoring of the **ecological condition of marine protected** areas and promotion of scientific research programmes.
- **Dissemination to the general public and institutional players** of actions carried out by the MedPAN association or the members of the network
- **Promotion of the role, of the value and the environmental, social and economic benefits** of Mediterranean marine protected areas amongst all the publics concerned
- **Promotion** of the association, the members or partners of the network amongst **public or private donors** with the aim of helping fundraising for the association or the projects it wishes to promote.

### **I would hereby like to invite you to join our association**

Participation in the activities of the association is restricted to legal entities. Two forms of membership are provided for that could apply to your organisation:

1/ If your organisation is in charge of managing a marine protected area, you may join as a **member**. The status of member gives you the right to vote in all the association's official proceedings.

The membership fee has deliberately been fixed at the low level of 50€ so that it does not constitute an obstacle for organisations to join.

2/ If your organisation is not in charge of managing an MPA, you can join as a **partner**. The partner status enables you to participate in the association's General Assembly and possibly in its Board of Directors as well as in the Advisory Committee but without voting rights.

**A General Assembly will be organized in 2009** to discuss the association's strategy and action plan and particularly the development of projects in the field likely to provide concrete benefits for the network's MPAs. We are looking forward to meeting you there.

If your organisation would like to **hold a leadership role** in governing the association either on the Board of Directors, the Executive Committee or the Advisory Committee, please let us know so that we can present your candidature during the association's next General Assembly.

Awaiting your reply, I remain  
Yours faithfully,

Jean-Pierre Nicol  
Director of the Port-Cros National Park  
President of the MedPAN association

PJ : Charter of the MedPAN association and list of the founding members