



**PRESS CONFERENCE**  
**on the occasion of the Second Steering Committee Meeting of the**  
**Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Sea Large Marine Ecosystem**  
**(MedPartnership)**

Hotel Cham Palace, Damascus, Syria, 16 March 2011

**AGENDA**

- 15:30 – 16:00            Warming up: Refreshments
- 16:00 – 16:20            Introduction to the Press Conference:
- Ms. Kawkab al-Sabah Dayeh, Minister of State for Environmental Affairs of Syria (TBC)
  - Ms. Maria Luisa Silva Mejias, Coordinator, UNEP Mediterranean Action Plan
  - Mr. Ivan Zavadsky, Senior Advisor, GEF Secretariat
  - Mr. Ivica Trumbic, Project Manager, MedPartnership
- 16:20 - 16:40            Shaping the future of the Mediterranean Coasts: Celebrating the ICZM Protocol
- On November 2010, Syria ratified the Integrated Coastal Zone Management Protocol, which now enters into force. The ICZM Protocol, which is a unique legal instrument in the entire international community, is a key tool for sustainable coastal development, as it provides an effective way of ensuring that human actions are undertaken with a concern for balancing economic, social and environmental goals and priorities in a long-term perspective. Syria becomes the first among the Mediterranean countries to have ratified the Barcelona Convention, its seven Protocols and all its amendments.*
- 16:40 - 17:00            Syria's National Action Plan for Land Based Sources of Pollution and demonstration projects in MedPartnership
- 17:00 – 18:00            Press Conference