

# The MedPartnership

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### ICZM Protocol to the Barcelona Convention enters into force following Syria's ratification

19/09/2010



On November 2010, Syria deposited its instrument of ratification of the Integrated Coastal Zone Management in the Mediterranean Protocol, 2008 (the ICZM Protocol), thus bringing the total number of the ratifications of the Protocol to six. After this latest development, the Protocol will enter into force on the thirtieth day (30) following the date of the deposit of at least six (6) instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession (Article 39 of the ICZM Protocol).

Signed in January 2008, 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. It adds provisions on the environmental impact analysis, the protection and sustainable use of coastal areas, particular coastal ecosystems, coastal landscapes and islands, economic activities and cultural heritage.

Syria becomes the first among the Mediterranean countries to have ratified the Barcelona Convention, its seven Protocols and all its amendments.

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