

Meeting of the Focal Points of the  
Regional Marine Pollution Emergency  
Response Centre for the Mediterranean  
Sea (REMPEC)

REMPEC/WG.16/3/2  
6 October 1998

Original: English

Malta, 25-28 November 1998.

Agenda item 3.

### **ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA**

#### **Introduction**

1. The Meeting of the Focal Points of the Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC) has been convened in Malta from 25 to 28 November 1998, pursuant to the decision of the Tenth Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention which agreed that a Meeting of REMPEC's Focal Points be organized during 1998 (UNEP (OCA)/MED IG.11/10, Tunis, 18-21 November 1997).
2. The principal objectives of the Focal Points' Meeting will be:
  - a) to evaluate the implementation of the programme of activities of REMPEC for the period October 1996 - October 1998 and to review the current state of regional, sub-regional and national systems for preparedness for and response to accidental marine pollution and to examine the actions to be taken to strengthen these systems;
  - b) to discuss and agree on the further development of the regional information system;
  - c) to consider the draft amendments to the Emergency Protocol and to Resolution 7 regarding the objectives and functions of REMPEC which will be submitted for adoption to the Eleventh Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention; and,
  - d) to discuss and approve a programme of activities for the next biennium 2000-2001 which should include proposal regarding activities related to the prevention of pollution of marine environment from ships and which will be submitted to the MAP Focal Point Meeting.
3. All REMPEC official Governmental Focal Points have been invited to participate in the Focal Points' Meeting. The Governmental Focal Points have also been invited to include in their national delegations the representatives of their respective ministries responsible for the maritime transport. Relevant United Nations Organizations and other Governmental and Non-Governmental Organizations have also been invited to attend the Meeting. Relevant industry representatives have been invited to attend in the capacity of observers.
4. The following annotations to the proposed agenda for the Meeting were prepared by the Centre to assist the Meeting in its work.

**Agenda Item 1 - Opening of the Meeting**

5. The Focal Points' Meeting will be opened at 10.00 hours on 25 November 1998, by the representative of the Secretary General of the International Maritime Organization (IMO).

**Agenda Item 2 - Organization of the Meeting**

**2.1 Rules of Procedure**

6. The Rules of procedure for Meetings and Conferences of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution and its related Protocols (UNEP/IG.43/6, Annex XI) shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to the deliberations of this Meeting.

**2.2 Election of Officers**

7. The Focal Points' Meeting will be invited to elect a Chairman, a vice-Chairman and a Rapporteur.

**2.3 Working Languages**

8. Simultaneous English/French interpretation will be provided during the Meeting. The working documents will be available in both languages, English and French.

**Agenda Item 3 - Adoption of the Agenda**

9. The agenda, as proposed in document REMPEC/WG.16/3/1 and annotated in the present document, will be proposed for adoption by the Focal Points' Meeting. The Meeting will be invited to agree on a timetable to carry out its work. A draft timetable is proposed in document REMPEC/WG.16/3/3.

**Agenda Item 4 - Review of the implementation of REMPEC's Programme of activities (1997-1998)**

10. The Focal Points' Meeting will be informed of the present status of implementation of REMPEC's Programme of Activities for the period 1997 - 1998.

The Director of REMPEC will introduce document REMPEC/WG.16/4: Progress report on the implementation of REMPEC's programme of activities (1997-1998), which contains general presentation of the activities carried out by the Centre since the last Meeting of the Focal Points held in October 1996 (REMPEC/WG.14/17) focussing on the following main areas of activities:

- Training
- Capacity building: development of national, sub-regional and regional capabilities
- Assistance in case of emergency: communication, exercises and the Mediterranean Assistance Unit.

**The Focal Points' Meeting will be invited** to comment and take note of the progress made.

**Agenda Item 5 - Regional Information System**

11. The Focal Points' Meeting will be informed (REMPEC/WG.16/5) of the supporting computerized tools for the development of the Regional Information System, including the computerization of the Centre's library and the new relational data base, as well as of the proposal for the creation of the Centre's web site

**The Focal Points' Meeting will be invited:**

- a) to take note of the plans and work already carried out for the computerization of the Centre's library;
- b) to comment and agree on the future status of the Centre's relational data base.
- c) to consider the creation of REMPEC's web site and its contents.

**5.1 Directories, Lists, Inventories, Catalogue**

12. The Focal Points' Meeting will be informed of the present state of Part B of the Regional Information System - Lists and Inventories - described in document REMPEC/WG.16/5/1.

**The Focal Points' Meeting will be invited:**

- a) to consider the new versions of the relevant Sections of Part B;

**5.2 Databanks, Simulation Models and Decision Support System**

13. The Focal Points' Meeting will be informed of the initiative taken for the redesign and upgrading of the Centre maritime oriented database "TROCS". A presentation of the new version of the TROCS will be organized. A document will be submitted to the Meeting (REMPEC/WG.16/5/2) describing the new version of the "TROCS". A presentation of the decision support system CAMEO will also be organized.

**The Focal Points' Meeting will be invited:**

- a) to comment and to express its views on the status of the TROCS; and
- b) to take note of the CAMEO system.

**5.3 Operational Guides and Technical Documents**

14. The Director will introduce document REMPEC/WG.16/5/3 which will provide the Meeting with information on the current status of preparation and publication of the operational guides and technical documents making up the Regional Information System.

**The Focal Points' Meeting will be invited** to take note of and to comment on this part of the Regional Information System.

**5.4 Sensitivity mapping**

15. The Focal Points' Meeting will be informed on the result of a pilot project for the preparation of sensitivity maps conducted within the framework of the CAMP for Sfax, Tunisia (REMPEC/WG.16/5/4).

**The Focal Points' Meeting will be invited** to take note and comment on the information provided.

**5.5 Meteorological Support to Marine Pollution Emergency Response Operations on the High Seas (WMO - MPERSS)**

16. The Meeting will be informed by a representative of WMO of the current developments of the Meteorological support system to Marine Pollution Emergency Response operations on the high Seas (REMPEC/WG.16/5/5).

**The Focal Points' Meeting will be invited** to take note and comment on the development of this system.

**Agenda Item 6 - Regional strategy on prevention of pollution of the marine environment by ships**

17. The Tenth Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention, held in Tunis 18-21 November 1997, adopted a Regional Strategy on Prevention of Pollution of the Marine Environment by Ships and decided that the Emergency Protocol is to be amended as well as the Resolution 7 regarding the objectives and functions of REMPEC (UNEP(OCA)/MED IG.11/10, Annex IV, Appendix III)

18. The Director of REMPEC will introduce the report of the Meeting of National Experts on the amendment to the Emergency Protocol (REMPEC/WG.15/6) held in Malta on 23-24 November 1998. The Director will present the result of the work of the Expert Meeting regarding proposed Amendments to the Emergency Protocol aiming at introducing the provisions necessary to implement the Regional Strategy on prevention of pollution of the marine environment by ships, as well as proposed amendments to Resolution 7 regarding objectives and functions of REMPEC.

**The Focal Points' Meeting will be invited to:**

- a) to examine and approve the proposed amendments to be submitted to the next Contracting Parties Meeting for final adoption; and
- b) to discuss and agree upon a tentative programme of activities in this field which might be incorporated in the whole programme of activities of REMPEC for the next biennium.

**Agenda Item 7 - Co-operation between governments and the oil, chemical and shipping Industries concerning preparedness for and response to accidental marine pollution**

19. The Director of REMPEC will present the document REMPEC/WG.16/7 which will inform on the progress made since the last Focal Points' Meeting on the matter of co-operation between governments and the oil, chemical and shipping industries concerning preparedness for and response to accidental marine pollution.

The oil industry (IPIECA) will submit an information document regarding, in particular, the activities of the MOIG, and will contribute to the work of the Meeting on this subject,

The Chemical Industry (CEFIC) is expected to submit an information document in particular regarding the activities of the CEFIC, and to contribute to the work of the Meeting on this subject.

The Shipping Industry (ITOPF) is expected to submit an information document in particular regarding the activities of the ITOPF, and to contribute to the work of the Meeting on this subject.

**The Focal Points' Meeting will be invited:**

- a) to discuss and express its views on the subject of co-operation between governments and the industries;
- b) to consider and agree upon activities which might be carried out in co-operation between industry and REMPEC in improving the level of preparedness for and the response to accidental marine pollution in the region.

**Agenda Item 8 - OPRC 90 Convention and OPRC working group**

20. The representative of IMO will inform the participants of the latest development regarding the OPRC 90 Convention as well as the activities of the OPRC Working Group (REMPEC/WG.16/8).

**The Focal Points' Meeting will be invited** to take note of the information provided.

**Agenda Item 9 - Liability and compensation for marine pollution damage**

21. The Focal Points' Meeting will be informed by a representative of the IOPC Fund of the latest development regarding the CLC and the Funds Conventions and Protocols as well as of the activities of the Fund. IOPC Funds is expected to submit a document (REMPEC/WG.16/9) concerning the entry into force of 92 Protocols to the two Conventions.

**The Focal Points' Meeting will be invited** to take note of the information provided.

**Agenda Item 10 - Administration of the Centre**

22. The Director of REMPEC will introduce document REMPEC/WG.16/10 containing information concerning matters related to the administration of the Centre such as, personnel, premises and equipment.

**The Focal Points Meeting will be invited to:**

- a) to take note and comment on the information provided;
- b) to give guidance to the Director of REMPEC as requested.

**Agenda Item 11 - Medium term programme (2000/2004) and decisions and guidance for the 2000/2001 biennium – programme and budget**

23. The Director of REMPEC will present a proposed medium term programme of priority activities to be conducted by REMPEC during period 2000/2004 (REMPEC/WG.16/11/1). The Director of REMPEC will present the Document REMPEC/WG.16/11/2 containing proposal for the programme and budget for the 2000/2001 biennium.

**The Focal Points' Meeting will be invited:**

- a) to consider and agree upon a proposal for a medium term programme to be submitted to the next meeting of the Contracting Parties;
- c) to discuss and agree on a proposed programme for the 2000/2001 biennium and give guidance to REMPEC accordingly.

**Agenda Item 12 - Cooperation and coordination with other International Organizations and Programmes (EU, Euro Med, GEF, World Bank, UNDP, METAP)**

24. The Director of REMPEC will introduce the document REMPEC/WG.16/12 that provides information on programmes and activities which are conducted by other international organizations and which are relevant to prevention and response to the pollution of the marine environment from sea-based activities, and on the cooperation and coordination with those organizations and programmes.

**The Focal Points' Meeting will be invited:**

- a) to take note and comment on the information provided;
- b) to express its views on actions to be taken by the countries and by the Centre with the view to develop cooperation with other international organizations and to improve coordination between the various programmes and activities.

**Agenda Item 13 - Other Business**

25. The Focal Points' Meeting may wish to consider any submissions which should be made under the agenda item or have a brief discussion on subjects related to the activities of the Centre and of the Mediterranean Action Plan such as the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development, the Dumping Protocol, the Off-shore Protocol and the Hazardous Wastes Protocol.

**Agenda Item 14 - Approval of the Report**

26. A draft report of the Meeting will be submitted to the participants for adoption.

**Agenda Item 15 - Closure of the Meeting**

27. The Meeting is expected to be closed by the Chairman at 13.00 hours on 28 November 1998.