

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

REMPEC/WG.18/13
20 July 2000

Original: English

Malta, 25 – 29 October 2000

Agenda Item 13

**PROPOSED PROGRAMME OF PRIORITY
ACTIVITIES, 2002 – 2003
PROPOSED RELEVANT BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM**

Note by REMPEC

1. The Meeting of REMPEC Focal Points needs to conclude on the activities regarding a regional strategy for prevention, preparedness and response to pollution in the marine environment from sea-based activities, which will be implemented within the framework of MAP Phase II, once the revision of the Protocol and the redefinition of the objectives and functions of the Centre are finalised.
2. For the 2002 - 2003 biennium, a preliminary draft programme, which takes into consideration also the recommendations of the 11th Meeting of the Contracting Parties and the activities in the field of prevention of pollution from ships, can be found in Annex II. However, the programme has been prepared on the basis of the Centre's current budget and therefore only covers the part regarding preparedness and co-operation in the event of a marine pollution emergency which is a continuation of a previous programme approved by the Contracting Parties.
3. The following are the general orientation of proposed future activities and actions for a regional strategy for prevention, preparedness, response and mutual assistance:

I. Prevention of pollution by ships

A. Building national capacities

- i) improving the capacities of administrations (in charge of maritime transport and environment) to develop and implement prevention policies through:
 - training courses;
 - delivery of information and expert assistance including access to technology, technology transfer and methods thereof;
 - pilot programmes;

ii) developing hardware infrastructural resources through:

- technical and pre-investment studies;
- pilot projects.

B. Develop regional co-operation

- i) conducting co-ordinated actions through organized consultation at all levels: national, regional and global (in IMO) in specific fields such as: anti-fouling paints, navigation in sensitive areas, ballast water, traffic separation schemes, etc.;
- ii) implementing programmes that require concerted action and measures at the regional level in fields such as: reception facilities, port state control, aerial surveillance, prevention of pollution from pleasure crafts;
- iii) carrying out studies on matters of regional interest, such as salvage and emergency towing capacities in the Mediterranean.

II. Preparedness, response and co-operation in the event of accidental marine pollution (continuation of the already established strategy)

A. Concerning preparedness and response, the Centre should:

- i) continue to develop and maintain the Regional Information System and develop tools as an aid to decision taking;
- ii) focus its intent and action mainly on developing national systems for preparedness and response as well as facilitating the adoption of sub-regional contingency systems;
- iii) organize a training programme geared to the requirements of the region with special attention paid to providing assistance to States so they can deliver their own national training courses and by giving the priority to countries that need them most. This will have to fall within the budget window allocated to the Centre for this activity;
- iv) undertake and co-operate in activities with the appropriate organizations regarding preparedness and response to maritime related accidents involving hazardous substances that occur in port areas or their approaches;
- v) organize exercises so as to test the regional co-operation scheme;
- vi) prepare new provisions and procedures that will apply in the event of international co-operation and assistance;
- vii) continue and intensify the contacts and relations with organizations that represent the shipping, oil and chemical industries with a view to facilitate the development of co-operation between government and industry;
- viii) organize and maintain the Mediterranean Assistance Unit, MAU, in a state of readiness.

B. In the event of accidental marine pollution, at the request of States, in compliance with its objectives and functions and due account being given to the resources available, REMPEC should:

- i) highlight and provide technical advice and information that States may require and use accordingly the Regional Information System that was developed and that is kept up to date by the Centre;
- ii) activate the MAU to assist in response;
- iii) assist in securing and co-ordinating international assistance irrespective of whether the equipment, products or strike teams are provided by government or industry;
- iv) strive to assist the affected States to disseminate information;
- v) disseminate information on "lesson learnt".

C. Prevention of pollution of the marine environment as a result of offshore production and exploration activities

- i) fulfill the function of Secretariat as stated in the Protocol (function assigned to the "Organization").

Resources required to implement the activities for a regional strategy for prevention, preparedness and response

4. For the implementation of such a programme, certain conditions, administrative and/or financial, would need to be met which would be the following:

- a) REMPEC will need more staff to run the complete programme successfully. In this regard, the Centre envisages that it will need the following additional staff component:
 - i) a programme officer to deal with the new field of prevention;
 - ii) a programme officer to deal with the Offshore Protocol;
 - iii) a computer expert.
- b) Regarding preparedness, response and co-operation in the event of accidental marine pollution, the financial implications would be much the same as in the past although the workload will increase slightly.
- c) Regarding the prevention of pollution by ships, the conditions laid down in (ai) need to be wholly met. The action and activities planned will be conducted within the framework of clearly defined programmes and projects.
- d) Regarding the implementation of the Offshore Protocol, this will require additional finances to be made available through the MAP budget.

Action requested of the Meeting of Focal Points

5. The Meeting is invited to:

- a) examine and approve the draft programme for 2002 – 2003 and related draft budget requested to carry out the relevant activities that will be presented to the next Meeting of Contracting Parties;
- b) give its advice on the resources required to implement the regional strategy on prevention and the Offshore Protocol;
- c) give guidance to the Director on the whole matter.

ANNEX I**PROPOSED MEDIUM TERM PROGRAMME (2000 - 2003) OF PRIORITY ACTIVITIES
IN THE FIELD OF PREVENTION, PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE TO POLLUTION
OF THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT FROM SEA-BASED ACTIVITIES**

ACTIVITIES/ACTIONS	CARRIED OUT BY	YEAR OF REALIZATION	
		2002	2003
<p><u>TITLE I. PREVENTION OF POLLUTION BY SHIPS *</u></p> <p><u>I. Control the effective implementation of the relevant IMO Conventions :</u></p> <p>1. Strengthening national capacities for exercising the power of flag State, port State and coastal State:</p> <p>a) Regional training programmes; b) Pilot programmes.</p> <p>2. Develop regional co-operation to increase efficiency of port State Control.</p> <p><u>II. Port reception facilities</u></p> <p>Implementation of Action Plan adopted in Cairo, December 1991.</p>	REMPEC		

ACTIVITIES/ACTIONS	CARRIED OUT BY	YEAR OF REALIZATION	
		2000	2001
V. <u>Routing system</u> 1 Vessel traffic services in the Mediterranean 2 Traffic separation schemes 3 Areas to be avoided by the shipping traffic (sensitive areas, protected areas, etc.)	REMPEC REMPEC REMPEC		
VI. <u>Pleasure crafts</u> Preparation of a proposal for a legal instrument related to prevention of pollution from pleasure crafts.	REMPEC		

* the Contracting Parties should approve an increase in the Centre's budget and personnel component in order to give REMPEC the capacity to cope with the new additional responsibilities.

ACTIVITIES/ACTIONS	CARRIED OUT	Year of Realization		Budget approved biennium 2000-2001		Budget proposed biennium 2002-2003	
		2002	2003	MTF	Other sources	MTF	Other sources
<p><u>TITLE II. PREPAREDNESS FOR, RESPONSE TO AND CO-OPERATION IN CASE OF ACCIDENTAL MARINE POLLUTION</u></p> <p>I. <u>Collection and dissemination of information (e.g. guidelines, recommendations and technical documents) from other relevant organizations and from the shipping, oil and chemical industry.</u></p> <p><u>REGIONAL INFORMATION SYSTEM (*)</u> (oil and hazardous substances)</p> <p><u>PART A: Basic documents, Recommendations, Principles and Guidelines concerning marine pollution preparedness, response and mutual assistance.</u></p> <p><u>PART B : Lists and inventories</u></p> <p>1. Directory of competent national authorities in charge of accidental marine pollution preparedness, response and mutual assistance and other relevant information – SECTION 1.</p> <p>2. Inventory of experts, equipment and products which can be, under certain conditions, put at the disposal of a State which so requests, in cases of emergency – SECTION 2.</p>	<p>REMPEC</p>						

(*) to keep updated the RIS is a permanent activity of REMPEC

ACTIVITIES/ACTIONS	CARRIED OUT BY	YEAR OF REALIZATION		Budget approved biennium 2000-2001		Budget proposed biennium 2002-2003	
		2002	2003	MTF	Other sources	MTF	Other sources
3. Directory of companies offering services in the Mediterranean in case of emergency – SECTION 4. 4. Complete computerization and maintenance of the RIS.							
PART C: Databanks, Forecasting Models and Decision Support Systems							
5. Maintenance, utilization and updating of the partially computerized databank of the Centre.							
6. Acquisition of behaviour simulation models.							
7. Description of the Centre's information services on hazardous substances – SECTION 1.							
8. Develop and maintain the TROCS database.					(*) 22000		(*) 24000
9. List of alerts and accidents in the Mediterranean – SECTION 4.							
10. Directory of Mediterranean Meteorological Centres – SECTION 7.							
PART D: Operational Guides and Technical Documents							
11. Case histories describing hazardous materials – SECTION 8. 12. Associated risk of gases and volatile liquids spilled at sea. (Supplement) – SECTION 9.							
13. Impact of spilled hazardous substances on human life and the marine environment – SECTION 10.							

(*) part of EC voluntary contribution

ACTIVITIES/ACTIONS	CARRIED OUT BY	YEAR OF REALIZATION		Budget approved biennium 2000-2001		Budget proposed biennium 2002-2003	
		2002	2003	MTF	Other sources	MTF	Other sources
14. Compendium of notes on preparedness and response to maritime pollution emergencies involving hazardous substances – SECTION 11bis							
15. Guide for dealing with marine incidents involving hazardous substances – SECTION 12.							
			Sub-total	16000	22000	16500	24000
II. <u>Assistance to countries which so request, in developing their national capabilities</u>							
A. <u>National and Subregional Systems</u>	REMPEC		on request				
1. Assistance to countries in developing their information sources at the national level by providing computerized material developed by REMPEC.							
2. Providing assistance to countries which so request, to develop their national system for preparedness and response.	REMPEC/Consultant		on request	10000		10000	
3. Providing assistance to countries which so request, for the preparation of projects for the acquisition of combating equipment which would be submitted to possible sources of international financing.	REMPEC/Consultant		on request				
4. Development of sub-regional systems for combating major marine pollution accidents : Eastern Mediterranean, Western Mediterranean, Adriatic	EC/REMPEC Consultant		on request	20000	(*) 809000	20000	(**) 714000

(*) 3 LIFE projects (Cyprus, Egypt, Israel – Syria – Turkey)

(**) 2 LIFE projects (Syria - Turkey)

ACTIVITIES/ACTIONS	CARRIED OUT BY	YEAR OF REALIZATION		Budget approved biennium 2000-2001		Budget proposed biennium 2002-2003	
		2002	2003	MTF	Other sources	MTF	Other sources
5. Providing assistance to States, which so request, for the preparation and development of bilateral/multilateral operational agreements amongst neighbouring coastal States.	REMPEC/Consultant	on request		8000		8000	
		Sub-total		38000	809000	38000	714000
B. <u>Port Emergency Response System</u>	REMPEC in co-operation with other organizations	on request		7000		7000	
6. Risk analysis: - design of pilot projects for external financing.							
7. Port emergency plan: - design of pilot projects for external financing.							
8. Decision support system: - design of pilot project for external financing.							
		Sub-total		7000		7000	
C. <u>CAMP</u>							
9. Development of operational sensitivity maps in the Mediterranean. (projects co-financed by : SMAP/MEDA/LIFE mechanism 80%, related country 16%, MAP 4%).		X	X	-		40000	
		Sub-total				40000	
III. <u>Training</u>							
1. Specialized regional training course on oil and hazardous substances.	REMPEC	X	X	134000		140000	

ACTIVITIES/ACTIONS	CARRIED OUT BY	YEAR OF REALIZATION		Budget approved biennium 2000-2001		Budget proposed biennium 2002-2003	
		2002	2003	MTF	Other sources	MTF	Other sources
2. Providing assistance to States, which so request in the preparation of national training seminars.	REMPEC	on request		20000	(*) 120000	20000	(*) 140000
3. Making available teaching documents for national training activities.	REMPEC	X	X				
4. Preparation of a training programme on preparedness and response in ports.	REMPEC	X	X	10000		12000	
		Sub-total		164000	120000	172000	140000
IV. <u>Co-operation and mutual assistance in case of emergency</u>	REMPEC						
1. Organization and administration of the Mediterranean Assistance Unit to assist combating accidental marine pollution..		X	X	8000		8000	
2. Organization of alert exercises aimed at testing the use of the standard alert message and communications network "MEDIPOLEX".	REMPEC	X	X				
3. Organization of "paper exercises" with chemical industry (ICE)	REMPEC	X	X				
4. Organization of operational exercises.	In co-operation with a Contracting Party or with the Oil Industry	X	X				
5. Maintenance of relations and contacts with the representative organizations of oil and shipping industries.	REMPEC	X	X				

(*) IMO/TCD contribution for national training courses in the Mediterranean Arabic-speaking countries.

ACTIVITIES/ACTIONS	CARRIED OUT BY	YEAR OF REALIZATION		Budget approved biennium 2000-2001		Budget proposed biennium 2002-2003	
		2002	2003	MTF	Other sources	MTF	Other sources
6. Co-operation with the chemical industry (ICE project).	REMPEC in co-operation with CEFIC	X	X				
		Sub-total		8000		8000	
		Total		233000	951000	281500	878000
<u>TITLE III PREVENTION OF MARINE POLLUTION RESULTING FROM OFFSHORE ACTIVITIES *</u>							
<u>I. Preparation of guidelines, standards and joint criteria</u>							
1. Preparation of criteria for the formulation and elaboration of international rules, standards and recommended practices and procedures for achieving the aims of the Protocol (article 23).		REMPEC					
2. Preparation of common standards for the disposal of oil and oily mixtures from installations into the Protocol area (article 10, para 1a).							
3. Preparation of common standards for the use and disposal of drilling fluids and drill cuttings into the Protocol area (article 10, para 2).							
4. Preparation of guidelines regarding the use of chemicals for the activities (article 9, para 2).							
5. Preparation of guidelines in accordance with international practices and procedures to ensure observance of the provisions of Annex VI : Safety Measures (article 23, para 1c).							

ANNEX II

**PROPOSED MEDIUM TERM PROGRAMME (2002-2003) OF PRIORITY ACTIVITIES
IN THE FIELD OF PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE TO POLLUTION
OF MARINE ENVIRONMENT FROM SEA-BASED ACTIVITIES**

Component	Objectives	Timetable	Outputs	Partners	Financing Mechanism
Collection and dissemination of information	To keep the Coastal States updated and informed	Permanent activity	1) Regional Information System (R.I.S) 2) Technical documents and guides not included in the R.I.S.		M.T.F. (EC voluntary contribution for TROCS)
Assistance to countries which so request in developing their national capabilities	To assist Countries in developing their national systems for preparedness and response	on request	1) Reports on the status of the art in the country 2) Thematic workshops 3) Recommendations 4) NCPs		M.T.F.
	To encourage and facilitate the development of subregional systems for combating major marine pollution	2002-2003	1) technical reports and proposals for further actions 2) training courses 3) exercises 4) NCPs and subregional NCPs		LIFE TC
	To assist the coastal States in the preparation and development of bilateral/multilateral operational agreements with neighbouring States	on request	1) workshops 2) proposals and recommendations		M.T.F.
	To design pilot projects for port emergency plans	on request	1) proposals and recommendations 2) port emergency plans		M.T.F.

Component	Objectives	Timetable	Outputs	Partners	Financing Mechanism
	To develop operational sensitivity maps in the Mediterranean within Coastal Area Management Programmes (CAMP)	2002 2003	Operational sensitivity maps for coastal areas (territorial waters)	MEDU	SMAP/MEDA
Training	To train relevant people on combating marine pollution from oil and hazardous substances	2002 2003	Two regional specialized training courses		M.T.F. (contribution from the hosting country)
	To assist the coastal States in the preparation of national training courses/seminars	on request	National training courses (at least three courses if the contribution from IMO TCD is provided)		M.T.F. IMO/TCD
	To train people in preparedness and response activities in port areas	2002 2003	Training courses (envisaged one per year)		M.T.F.
Co-operation and mutual assistance in case of emergency	To organize and administrate the Mediterranean Assistance Unit	permanent activity	Technical expertise available on call for the countries		M.T.F.
	To improve the readiness level of the countries to co-operate in operational response activities	permanent activity	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Mediterranean Pollution Exercise (MEDIPOLEX) once a year 2) exercise within the ICE system (once a year) 3) real exercise (on request) 4) enhancing the MPERSS implementation in the Mediterranean 	Coastal States Oil and Chemical Industry WMO/METEO FRANCE (for the activation of the MPRESS system)	M.T.F.