



IMO-OMI



UNEP-PNUE

REGIONAL MARINE POLLUTION EMERGENCY  
RESPONSE CENTRE FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA (REMPEC)

CENTRE REGIONAL MEDITERRANEEN POUR L'INTERVENTION  
D'URGENCE CONTRE LA POLLUTION MARINE ACCIDENTELLE (REMPEC)

MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN  
PLAN D'ACTION POUR LA MEDITERRANEE



8<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Focal Points of the  
Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response  
Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC)

REMPEC/WG.28/11  
27 March 2007

Malta, 7-11 May 2007

Original: English

Agenda Item 11

**PROPOSED PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE BIENNIUM 2008/2009**

**Note by the Secretariat**

1. The Secretariat prepared a draft programme of activities for the biennium 2008/2009 to be financed by the Mediterranean Trust Fund (MTF). The proposed programme of activities was developed with a view to facilitating the effective implementation of the 2002 Protocol Concerning Cooperation in Preventing Pollution from Ships and, in Cases of Emergency, Combating Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea ("Prevention and Emergency" Protocol), which was adopted on the 25 January 2002 and entered into force on 17 March 2004, taking into consideration the main following elements:

- a) the Regional Strategy for Prevention of and Response to Marine Pollution from Ships, approved by the fourteenth Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention (Portoroz, Slovenia, 8-11 November 2005), and its specific objectives;
- b) the activities and projects (including the EU-funded MEDA project on Euromed Cooperation on Maritime Safety and Prevention of Pollution from Ships - SAFEMED) carried out or being implemented during the biennium 2006/2007, in order to ensure any necessary continuity between these activities and those planned for the biennium 2008/2009.

2. The general orientations of the Centre for the biennium 2008/2009 are reflected in three singled out general objectives, namely:

- Promoting the ratification, transposition, implementation and enforcement of international regulations to prevent, reduce and control pollution of the marine environment from ships in the Mediterranean region (Objective I);
- Ensuring prompt and efficient response to marine pollution incidents in the Mediterranean region (Objective II); and
- Strengthening synergy and improving exchange of information and expertise within and outside the Mediterranean region (Objective III).

3. Under each general objective, specific goals have been set on the basis of identified needs. The said goals are expected to be reached by implementing the proposed activities.

4. The proposed programme of activities for the biennium 2008/2009 appears as an **Annex** to the present document.

5. In addition to the activities financed by the MTF, it should be noted that some additional activities, financed completely or partly by various external sources, could also be implemented during the biennium 2008/2009.

6. These include in particular:

- activities (not yet identified) financed by the Integrated Technical Cooperation Programme (ITCP) of the International Maritime Organisation (IMO);
- activities to be implemented under the IMO's GEF-funded project "Building Partnership to Assist Developing Countries to Reduce the Transfer of Harmful Aquatic Organisms in Ships' Ballast Water (GloBallast Partnerships) provided that the PDF B proposal is approved by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) Council;
- activities financed by possible voluntary contributions of individual Contracting Parties to the REMPEC's budget for the biennium 2008/2009.

7. Moreover, should opportunities arise from new developments and/or partnerships, activities, that do not appear under the proposed programme, might have to be initiated or carried out under the biennium 2008-2009, if they appear to be in line with the Strategy.

8. On the basis of the views expressed by the present Meeting, REMPEC will present the estimated budget allocations for the proposed activities to be proposed to the next Meeting of MAP Focal Points, scheduled for October 2007, prior to their submission for approval to the Fifteenth Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention, scheduled for December 2007. It is however assumed that the total amount to be allocated to the REMPEC budget for the biennium 2008/2009 will not vary from the budget approved by the Contracting Parties for the biennium 2006/2007 at their Fourteenth Ordinary (UNEP(DEC)/MED IG.16/13, Annex IV).

**The Meeting of Focal Points is invited to** review discuss and agree upon the programme of activities for 2008/2009 biennium prepared by the Secretariat, which will be presented to the forthcoming Meeting of MAP Focal Points and subsequently submitted for approval to the Contracting Parties at their Fifteenth Ordinary Meeting.

## ANNEX

### DRAFT PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES OF REMPEC FOR THE BIENNIUM 2008/2009

#### I - OBJECTIVES FOR THE BIENNIUM 2008/2009

**Objective I. Promoting the ratification, transposition, implementation and enforcement of international regulations to prevent, reduce and control pollution of the marine environment from ships in the Mediterranean region.**

Goal 1. To assist the Mediterranean coastal States in ratifying, transposing, implementing and enforcing international regulations to prevent, reduce and control pollution of the marine environment from ships.

**Objective II. Ensuring prompt and efficient response to marine pollution incidents in the Mediterranean region.**

Goal 2. To maintain active and/or develop the level of preparedness to respond to marine pollution incidents in the Mediterranean region.

**Objective III. Strengthening synergy and improving exchange of information and expertise within and outside the Mediterranean region.**

Goal 3. To enhance co-operation and working relations as appropriate with relevant organisations and programmes, as well as with industry and other relevant bodies and institutions.

Goal 4. To facilitate the dissemination and exchange of information on operational, technical, scientific, legal, administrative and financial matters.

**II - PROPOSED PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE BIENNIUM 2008/2009**

<b>OBJECTIVE I</b>	
<b>Promoting the ratification, transposition, implementation and enforcement of international regulations to prevent, reduce and control pollution of the marine environment from ships in the Mediterranean region.</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identified needs: Filling the gaps in the Mediterranean region with respect to ratification and transposition as well as improve standards of implementation and enforcement of relevant international regulations to prevent, reduce and control pollution of the marine environment from ships.</li> </ul> <p><b>Goal 1. To assist the Mediterranean coastal States in ratifying, transposing, implementing and enforcing international regulations to prevent, reduce and control pollution of the marine environment from ships.</b></p>	
<b>MODUS OPERANDI</b>	<b>PROPOSED ACTIVITIES</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❑ <b>Provide general and specialised knowledge through training activities</b> on relevant international regulations to prevent, reduce and control pollution of the marine environment from ships.</li> <li>❑ <b>Prioritise the national level</b> through the establishment of <b>bilateral frames of collaboration</b> between REMPEC and Mediterranean coastal States for the purpose of ratifying, transposing, implementing and enforcing relevant international regulations to prevent, reduce and control pollution of the marine environment from ships.</li> <li>❑ <b>Develop and/or revise implementation tools such as recommendations, principles, guidelines, proposals and procedures</b>, with a view to facilitate the implementation of international regulations to prevent, reduce and control pollution of the marine environment from ships by the Mediterranean coastal States.</li> <li>❑ <b>Provide technical expertise and advisory services</b> to Mediterranean coastal States on operational, technical, legal, administrative and financial aspects related to prevention, reduction and control of pollution of the marine environment from ships.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To organise and deliver regional training courses/seminars/workshops.</li> <li>- To organise and/or support the organisation of sub-regional training courses/seminars/workshops.</li> <li>- To organise and/or support the organisation of national training courses.</li> <li>- To provide Mediterranean coastal States which so request with technical advice and assistance for the ratification and/or transposition into national laws of relevant international regulations (Strategy 4.1).</li> <li>- To assist Mediterranean coastal States which so request in the development of national plans designed to enhance the performance of their maritime administration (Strategy 4.2).</li> <li>- To assist Mediterranean coastal States which so request in the development of procedures leading to prosecution of offenders of illicit discharge regulations (Strategy 4.7).</li> <li>- To assist Mediterranean coastal States which so request in drawing up plans to deal with ships in distress (Strategy 4.12).</li> <li>- To evaluate the capacities in terms of safety of the Mediterranean commercial ports and oil terminals (Strategy 4.15)</li> <li>- To provide assistance to the Mediterranean coastal States which so request in identifying the minimum required level of pre-positioned State controlled spill equipment (Strategy 4.16). To assist Mediterranean coastal States to prepare a submission to IMO to give effect to the Special Area status of the Mediterranean Sea with respect to MARPOL Annex V.</li> <li>- To compile an inventory of national procedures governing the entry into, movement within and exit of their territory of specialised personnel and equipment and prepare recommendations for their improvements (Strategy 4.20).</li> <li>- To revise and update, as appropriate, principles and guidelines concerning co-operation and mutual assistance (RIS A) and list of Emergency contact points.</li> </ul>

**OBJECTIVE II**  
**Ensure prompt and efficient response to marine pollution incidents in the Mediterranean region**

- Identified need: Enhancing the level of preparedness at national, sub-regional and regional level to face marine pollution incidents.

**Goal 2. To maintain active and/or develop the level of preparedness to respond to marine pollution incidents in the Mediterranean region.**

MODUS OPERANDI	PROPOSED ACTIVITIES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❑ Make available to Mediterranean coastal States <b>decision support tools</b> and upgrade / update them.</li> <li>❑ Support efforts of the Mediterranean coastal States aimed at revising, completing or updating national and sub-regional operational agreements and <b>emergency plans</b>.</li> <li>❑ Test and improve through the organisation of <b>alert exercises</b> (alert and communication exercises; full scale exercises involving deployment of equipment) the response network's reaction capacity.</li> <li>❑ Establish <b>frame of collaboration</b> with relevant competent regional and international organisations that could be involved in response operations to face marine pollution incidents occurring in the Mediterranean region.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To contribute to the development of sensitivity mapping, spill forecasting models (Strategy 4.18), MIDSIS-TROCS, remote sensing techniques etc.</li> <li>- To provide countries or group of countries with expertise for the development / revision of their systems and operational agreements (Strategy 4.21).</li> <li>- To support the organisation of national or sub-regional joint activities and meetings.</li> <li>- To organise 2 simulation exercises involving activation of the Mediterranean Assistance Unit (MAU).</li> <li>- To organise 1 alert and communication exercise.</li> <li>- To support and participate in national and sub-regional exercises organised by Contracting Parties.</li> </ul>

<b>OBJECTIVE III</b>	
<b>Strengthening synergy and improving exchange of information and expertise within and outside the Mediterranean region</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identified need: Strengthen synergy and transfer of state-of-the-art knowledge, information, technology and practices within and outside the Mediterranean region.</li> </ul> <p><b>Goal 3. To enhance <u>co-operation and working relations</u> as appropriate with relevant organisations and programmes, as well as with industry and other relevant bodies and institutions.</b></p>	
MODUS OPERANDI	PROPOSED ACTIVITIES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❑ REMPEC to act as an <b>interlocutor for the Mediterranean region</b> in relevant organisations and programmes, as well as industry and other recognised / competent bodies, institutions and Centres of expertise.</li> <li>❑ Identify and define <b>areas and modalities of collaboration</b> with relevant organisations and programmes, as well as with industry and other recognised / competent bodies, institutions and centres of expertise.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To participate, on a case-to-case basis, in relevant meetings, workshops, seminars, conferences and other events organised by relevant organisations and programmes, as well as by industry and other recognised / competent bodies, institutions and centres of expertise.</li> <li>- To facilitate the participation of national and regional research institutions and industry in the relevant international <i>fora</i> with a view to presenting the results of research and development activities undertaken in the Mediterranean region (Strategy 4.17).</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identified need: Improve access to and use of available information related to REMPEC activities and other relevant subjects.</li> </ul> <p><b>Goal 4. To facilitate the <u>dissemination and exchange of information</u> on operational, technical, scientific, legal, administrative and financial matters.</b></p>	
MODUS OPERANDI	PROPOSED ACTIVITIES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❑ Enhance REMPEC's <b>information system</b>.</li> <li>❑ Raise <b>awareness</b> on issues related to prevention and control of marine pollution from ships.</li> <li>❑ Upgrade REMPEC's <b>website</b>.</li> <li>❑ Develop of a <b>Geographical Information System (GIS)</b> for the Mediterranean region related to REMPEC's activities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To review the Regional Information System (RIS) with a view to achieving a new user friendly system of information.</li> <li>- To prepare material promoting the prevention and control of marine pollution from ships.</li> <li>- To initiate the preparations for the upgrading of REMPEC's website in collaboration with the Focal Points.</li> </ul>