



**MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN (MAP)
REGIONAL MARINE POLLUTION EMERGENCY RESPONSE CENTRE FOR THE
MEDITERRANEAN SEA (REMPEC)**

10th Meeting of the Focal Points of the Regional
Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre
for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC)

REMPEC/WG.32/4/1
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Agenda Item 4

**PROGRESS REPORT ON REMPEC's ACTIVITIES
SINCE THE 9TH MEETING OF REMPEC FOCAL POINTS**

Note by the Secretariat

SUMMARY

Executive Summary: This document provides a summary report on the activities carried out by the Centre, as well as other information related to MAP.

Action to be taken: Paragraph 47

Related documents: UNEP (DEPI) / MED IG.19/8; REMPEC/WG.30/4/1, REMPEC/WG.30/4/1Corr.1, REMPEC/WG.30/7, REMPEC/WG.32/5, REMPEC/WG.32/6, REMPEC/WG.37/7, REMPEC/WG.32/8/1; REMPEC/WG.32/8/2; REMPEC/WG.32/9/1 and REMPEC/WG.32/INF.3

Introduction

1. This report covers the period April 2009 - March 2011, that is to say activities conducted after the 9th Meeting of REMPEC Focal Points and before the 16th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention as well as the activities carried out after the said Contracting Parties Meeting based on the approved programme of activities of REMPEC for the biennium 2010-2011.

2. For the sake of clarity, this report has been divided under the following headings:

- I. Report on Institutional Developments.
- II. Report on Administrative and Other Related Issues.
- III. Report on the Implementation of Activities.

I. REPORT ON INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

Ratification of the Protocols

3. Since the last Meeting of the Focal Points of REMPEC, there has been no new accession to the Protocol Concerning Co-operation in Preventing Pollution from Ships and, in Cases of Emergency, Combating Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea, 2002 ("Prevention and Emergency Protocol").

4. There are currently twelve Contracting Parties which have ratified the 2002 Prevention and Emergency Protocol, whereas ten Contracting Parties are still Parties to the 1976 Emergency Protocol. The status of ratifications of the 2002 Prevention and Emergency Protocol to date is provided in **Annex I** to the present document.

5. In December 2010 the Secretariat wrote a letter to the Governmental Focal Points in the Countries which are still not a Party to the 2002 Protocol to urge them to consider accessing to the Protocol and also raised the issue during high level meetings in several countries.

6. In late 2010, the Secretariat was informed that Syria had ratified the Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution resulting from Exploration and Exploitation of the Continental Shelf and the Seabed and its Subsoil ("the Offshore Protocol") thus bringing this instrument into force on the 24 March 2011. The entry into force of this instrument will have some consequences on the duties of the Centre which will be further assessed under Agenda Item 8.

Decisions taken at the 16th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties related to institutional developments

- **New mandate of the Centre**

7. At their 15th Ordinary Meeting the Contracting Parties adopted a Governance Paper (Decision IG 17/5) addressing several issues and aiming at enhancing the coordination of the MAP Components including the harmonization of the Components' mandates. Consequently, a new mandate for REMPEC was adopted by Decision IG.19/5 of the 16th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties. The 9th Meeting of REMPEC Focal Points was already informed about this process and the only change introduced in REMPEC's mandate at the MAP Focal Points level was to take into account the role of the Centre in relation with emergency situations under the Offshore Protocol.

- **Adoption of a five year programme of work**

8. At the abovementioned Meeting, the Contracting Parties also adopted (Decision IG. 19/8) a five year programme of work and the programme budget for the 2010-2011 biennium. The adoption of the five year programme of work was also based on the Governance Paper in view of increasing the visibility of the strategic objectives of MAP and also enhancing a cross cutting approach through the MAP system to major thematic issues. The 2 year biennium work programme presented to the Focal Points is built within the five year programme of work which has to be seen as a rolling programme. The five year programme of work has been kept under review and the Bureau, at its last Meeting, has agreed that there was no need to update it for the forthcoming meeting of the Contracting Parties.

- **Decision IG.19/4 "Testing MAP Effectiveness Indicators"**

9. The Contracting Parties Meeting decided to request the Contracting Parties to participate on a voluntary basis in the testing exercise of the indicators which, as far as the Prevention and Emergency Protocol is concerned, were agreed upon by the 9 th Meeting of REMPEC Focal Points. However, in view of the work carried out for the implementation of Decision IG 17/6 on the Ecosystem Approach, the MAP Coordinating Unit proposed to the Bureau, at its 70th Session, to use the indicators to be developed under the Ecosystem Approach as effectiveness indicators. This issue will be further discussed under Agenda item 5.

Assessment of the implementation of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development

10. The Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD) was adopted by the Contracting Parties in 2005 at their 14th Ordinary Meeting (Portoroz, Slovenia). Its follow-up cycle schedules an in-depth assessment every five years. In this regard, a consultant has been commissioned by the Co-ordinating Unit in 2010 to proceed with the assessment. It has to be noted that the implementation of the Regional Strategy for the Prevention of and Response to Pollution from Ships, which has also been adopted at the same Meeting of the Contracting Parties forms part of the actions identified in order to reach the objective 7 of the priority fields of actions of the MSSD. In this regard, Focal Points may be contacted by the Consultant in order to assess the progress made in the national implementation of the specific objectives of the Regional Strategy. Furthermore, it is recalled that the Regional Strategy was supposed to be implemented during the period 2005-2015. Contracting Parties may wish to consider reviewing the content of the Strategy during the biennium 2014-2015.

Developments external to the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) related to the mandate of the Centre

11. The Meeting of Focal Points is invited to take note of the proposal to amend the existing European legislation which regulates the European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA) which is currently under consideration by the relevant EU bodies (COM (2010) 611 Final, 28.10.2010). In particular, if endorsed by the relevant EU bodies, this new regulation will give the possibility for EMSA to technically assist countries within the European Neighbourhood Policy in all the fields of competencies of the Agency. The proposal also contains a provision for the establishment of regional centres of the Agency.

II. REPORT ON ADMINISTRATIVE AND OTHER RELATED ISSUES

Administrative and Financial Issues

12. The most important development that took place during the period under review is the financial crisis the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) is facing with a severe deterioration of its core funding, the Mediterranean Trust Fund (MTF). At the end of 2010, UNEP Nairobi informed the Contracting Parties that following an internal audit, a shortfall of several millions USD has been assessed in the position of the MTF and has proposed several remedial measures. Although at the time of writing this document, no final decision has been made by the Contracting Parties which, through the Bureau, have requested an external audit; a precautionary policy has since been applied, based on a 14% reduction in the budget expenditures for the biennium 2010-2011. Further reductions in the available budget are also anticipated as UNEP has identified unsound procedures in the presentation of the MAP budget, leading to overestimating the available resources, this being the main reason for the current situation. 13 It has to be recalled that at the last Meeting of the Focal Points, the Secretariat had informed the Meeting of the already precarious financial situation of the Centre due to the lasting effect of the budget freeze decided by the Contracting Parties in 2004. In such a situation, if it was not for the resignation of one of its Programme Officers, the Centre would have not been able to face the 14% reduction request.

13. During the period under review, the Centre had also to face a regrettable drop in its staff complement as two Programme Officers left the Centre. In December 2009, at the end of her contract, Ms. Cristina Farchi, who was contracted with the Centre under a voluntary financial contribution of Italy, left the Centre. The voluntary financial contribution for the financing of this post was not renewed and the post could not be filled. In October 2010, Ms. Lilia Khodjet El Khil decided to resign from her position, and due to the situation explained above, the Centre has not been able to issue a call for applications to fill this established position. For the complete information of the Meeting, it has also to be recalled that another established position at the Centre in the General Service Staff category (G6 Administrative Assistant) is financed through the SAFEMED II Project.

14 The Secretariat wishes to take this opportunity to publicly acknowledge the quality of the services Ms Farchi and Ms Khodjet El Khil have rendered to the Centre and MAP during their term of office and extend to them its thanks for their commitment and dedication to their work.

15. The Centre has also benefitted during the period under review from the support of a Junior Programme Officer financed by the French Oil Industry through the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs mechanism *Volontariat Internationale Scientifique*. This support has been provided to the Centre since its inception and the Centre wishes to reiterate its thanks to France and to Total SA for this useful support.

16. The direct consequences of the reduction of budget and human resources are to be seen in the delivery of the Programme of Work. The programme of work of the Centre, as presented to the last Meeting of Focal Points and adopted by the Contracting Parties already contained a number of activities whose funding was unsecured (they appeared with the note "external funds to be identified"). During 2010 the Centre succeeded in cutting costs on several activities and also reducing some running costs in order to source some financing for some of these activities, however, these savings were used for the 14% reduction request.

17. Fortunately, the Centre has been able to benefit from funding from the Integrated Technical Cooperation Programme of the International Maritime Organization (IMO/ITCP). In December 2010, the Centre was also informed of a grant by the Spanish authorities in order to implement sub-regional training on shoreline clean-up assessment.

18. However, the situation faced by the Centre is critical as, on one hand, the weight of salaries in the overall budget of the Centre is nearing 80% and, on the other hand, the core staffing of Programme Officers is already reduced. In order to support the Centre, Contracting Parties may consider, on topics identified as a priority for them, to second some national experts for a fixed term period of time, and/or to make voluntary contributions targeted to specific activities. On its side, the Centre will try and develop some partnerships with the relevant concerned industries.

Communications with the Focal Points.

19. 20. In order to have good communications with the Contracting Parties it is important that the Centre is kept updated of any changes in the designation of the various Focal Points as soon as they are appointed. In this regard, the new website of the Centre gives the possibility for the Parties to update on line this information as well as other national information related to the core activities of the Centre.

20. In accordance with the provisions of the Governance paper (Decision IG 17/5) the Centre currently has three main Focal Points in each Contracting Party:

-The Governmental Focal Point who is either the MAP Focal Point or someone working under his direction, whose duty is to keep the MAP Focal Point informed of the activities carried out by the Centre and to liaise with the technical REMPEC Focal Points, when necessary; and

-The OPRC and the Prevention Focal Points who are more technical Focal Points appointed within the relevant administrations having a leading role respectively in preparedness for and response to accidental marine pollution from ships and in the prevention of pollution from ships.

21. In order to fulfil its programme of work the Centre is regularly addressing circular letters to the concerned Focal Point, copying the others for information sake. It is the responsibility of the addressee of the Circular letter to coordinate the reply of his country. This channelling of the information has been designed in order to allow a quick reply when, at the same time, keeping all the players involved. It is important that the Contracting Parties follow this line of communication to avoid difficulties arising from multiple and uncoordinated replies which result in delaying the logistical arrangements. It is also important that deadlines for nominations are strictly abided with, as late nominations usually translate in higher costs.

III. REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT SINCE THE LAST MEETING OF THE REMPEC FOCAL POINTS

22. **Annex II** to the present document provides a summary of all activities conducted by the Centre since the last Meeting of REMPEC Focal Points in April 2009. As explained above, the Contracting Parties have decided to adopt a new format for the programme of work. However, it has been found more appropriate, for the purpose of this present Meeting, to keep reporting the activities under the Specific Objectives of the Regional Strategy for the Prevention of and Response to Pollution from Ships.

23. As was the case in the past biennium, the activities implemented have been financed either through the MTF, the SAFEMED II Project, the GEF-UNDP-IMO GloBallast Partnerships Project, the IMO ITCP, and also, for the first time, the cost of some activities has been shared with the Mediterranean Oil Industry Group (MOIG). As already mentioned, Spain has also made some funding available for sub-regional training (not reported in Annex II as it will take place in the second part of 2011).

Prevention of and monitoring of marine pollution from ships.

24. The aim of this part of this present document is not to go through all the activities but to highlight some elements which are of specific importance. The implementation of the SAFEMED II Project and the progress made in the implementation of the GloBallast Partnerships Project and in the development of the regional strategy on ship's ballast water management are reported respectively under Agenda Items 6 and 7 in documents REMPEC/WG.32/6 and REMPEC/WG.32/7.

25. Since the last Meeting of REMPEC Focal Points, the Centre has tried to build upon the achievements of the previous biennium in the field of the enforcement of MARPOL Annex I. In particular, document REMPEC/WG.30/7 considered at the 9th Meeting of REMPEC Focal Points gave an analysis of the situation and proposed activities in this field for the biennium 2010-2011. The following paragraphs report on a pilot operation which has been conducted with the assistance of the Centre, a specialized training course aiming at reinforcing technical capacities, and the participation of the Centre to some preliminary meetings with a view to assisting in disseminating legal information to law enforcement officials.

26. The first co-ordinated aerial surveillance operation in the Mediterranean sea ("Operation de Surveillance Coordonnée Aérienne des Rejets en Méditerranée" - OSCAR-MED) was successfully completed in October 2009. This three day and night long operation was based on similar operations currently carried out in other regional sea areas. The pooling of aerial means gives the possibility of keeping a 24 hours surveillance capacity. This operation was also supported by the European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA) which granted access to the Clean Sea Net satellite images for the period. Spain, France and Italy provided dedicated aerial means whereas the Mediterranean Operational Oceanography Network (MOON) participated with two of its members in order to run and assess the accuracy of their forecasting and backtracking models. The operation was also attended by observers from Monaco and Tunisia. In the participating countries, law enforcement officials and magistrates were also on stand by, should an offender be caught red handed in areas under their respective jurisdictions. All the participants welcomed the operation and called for this pilot operation to become a regular practice and be extended to other neighbouring countries.

27. The role of the Secretariat in this first operation has been to facilitate communication between the various countries and to try to get as many countries as possible to participate. However, except for Morocco who replied positively at an early stage but was finally unable to participate in the operation, the other countries were not able to participate, this being mostly due to the unavailability of aerial governmental means which could be used for civilian missions.

28. The Secretariat has also facilitated the organisation of the planning meetings between the representatives of the involved countries in charge of the operation as well as the logistical support during the operation.

29. Amongst the accompanying measures to implement OSCAR-MED 2009, a dedicated training on aerial surveillance was organised in Morocco for aircraft crews of the Royal Air Forces and the "Gendarmerie Royale". This training was aimed at enhancing the reporting capacity on oil spills at sea, using the Oil Appearance Code Manual and also highlighting the main elements of an effective reporting of evidence. One of the main elements which was highlighted during this training is that, without the use of specialized equipment, in daylight, a well trained law enforcement official could establish a valid report to start proceedings.

30. Finally, as identified in the abovementioned document, one of the weaknesses faced with the effective implementation of MARPOL Annex I is the lack of an exchange of information on these types of offences between the concerned personnel of the Contracting Parties. It is recalled that the Contracting Parties have identified the establishment of a network of concerned personnel as a valid tool to address this weakness. The Centre initiated the process as an outcome of the MEDEXPOL 2007. In 2009, on an initiative launched by the French Ministry of Justice, the World Bank joined the process as the lack of enforcement of environmental law forms part of a Project proposal ("Sustainable Med") that the World Bank is considering to submit for the financing of the Global Environment Facility (GEF). In this regard, it was agreed by the World Bank that a project aiming at setting up a dedicated network on a specialized type of environmental offence could constitute a benchmark for developing further this type of cooperation. Consequently, two Meetings were organised by the World Bank in June 2009 and March 2010 with a view to seek the interest and the support of law enforcement officials from the Mediterranean countries. The following countries have

participated either to one or both Meetings: Albania, Algeria, Croatia, Egypt, France, Greece, Italy, Lebanon, Malta, Monaco, Morocco, Spain, Tunisia, and Turkey with a high degree of representation. The idea of setting up such a network was welcomed and the Centre was identified as a possible Secretariat. Discussions have resumed recently with the Centre for the Mediterranean Integration, a regional office of the World Bank in Marseilles, for the development of possible activities.

31. The meeting is also invited to take note of the initiative taken by EMSA to convene a first Workshop on "Enhancing the Effectiveness of the law Enforcement Chain in Combating Illegal Discharges" which took place in Lisbon on 12-16 February 2011 and to which representatives of regional seas were invited to take part. This Workshop was the occasion to exchange between the various regional seas their experience on co-operation at the regional level between neighbouring countries in the field of enforcement.

32. The regular occurrence of coordinated surveillance operations should be a target for the Contracting Parties as, in other sea areas, it has clearly been demonstrated that the fear of being caught and sanctioned has led to a decrease of illicit discharges. In this regard, the Meeting should consider setting up a network of contact persons amongst the administrations operating aerial means in order to facilitate the organisation of such operations. The Meeting is also invited to reiterate its interest in the setting up of a dedicated network for exchanging information and best practices in evidence gathering.

Preparedness for and response to marine pollution from ships

33. Specific developments will be addressed under agenda Items 8 and 9, mainly on the Deepwater Horizon incident and its consequences, the entry into force of the Offshore Protocol, the work carried out by the Mediterranean Technical Working Group (MTWG) and the Joint REMPEC-MOIG Mediterranean Government industry Cooperation Action Plan (MGICAP), 2010 (vide documents REMPEC/WG.32/8/1, REMPEC/WG.32/9/1 and REMPEC/WG.32/INF.3).

- **Contingency planning in the region.**

34. There have been some very significant developments in the field of contingency planning in the region during the period under review. Two countries, Malta and Turkey are in the final phase of adopting their National Marine Pollution Contingency Plan, whereas Montenegro is finalising the draft of the National Marine Pollution Contingency Plan (see document REMPEC/WG.32/8/2). Work is also in progress in Albania on this topic with a view to adopting the National Marine Pollution Contingency Plan by the end of 2011. Italy has recently informed the Centre of an important review of its National Marine pollution Contingency Plan. Taking into account these developments, only Bosnia and Herzegovina, Lebanon and Libya remain without a national Marine Pollution Contingency Plan. Following a regional workshop for Arabic-speaking countries on the HNS Protocol to the OPRC 90 Convention, Egypt has informed the Centre of its intention to amend its National Contingency Plan in order to address the issue of chemical release from a ship's cargo.

35. As regards Libya, work has started in 2009 both under the aegis of the Environment General Authority (EGA) and, as far as response means are concerned, under the National Oil Corporation (NOC) of Libya.

- **Exercising**

36. The Centre has been invited to assist /participate in several exercises during the period under review. These exercises were mainly focused on oil-spill response ("EURONYME" 2009 within the RAMOGE agreement in June 2009 in France, a national exercise in Algeria in April 2010, a national "SIMULEX" exercise in Morocco in June 2010, "MALTEX" 2010 in Malta in October 2010, and "RA-ATUM VII" in Egypt in November 2010). During the Egyptian and Maltese exercises, REMPEC requested forecasting models to the MOON and forwarded them to the competent national authorities. During the same period, the Centre also organised two alerts and communications exercises involving some chemical substances leading in one case to activate the chemical expert of the Mediterranean Assistance Unit (exercise with Israël in December 2009) and, in the other case, to activate the ICE network (exercise between Spain and Morocco in December 2009).

37. The Centre has also been called by Syria to assist the country in conducting training on the implementation of the National Marine Pollution Contingency Plan in view of a full scale exercise.

38. It is however usually difficult for the Centre to attend on site the exercises as, on the one hand, the available human resources are limited and, on the other hand, the actual role of the Centre will rather be to assist the requesting country from its offices, activating the Mediterranean Assistance Unit and MOON, and coordinating the regional assistance. At the same time, the Centre is fully aware of the request from some countries to benefit from external expert advice, able to analyse the unfolding of the response plan and assist in identifying possible weaknesses or gaps. A possible way to strengthen the regional co-operation in this field could consist in identifying a list of individuals from the administrations/agencies involved in response operations in the Contracting Parties that could be made available for this purpose. In order to have a wider approach, it could also be considered to team such expert with an expert from the oil/response industry.

39. As was reported during the last REMPEC Focal Points Meeting, the Centre has also extended the scope of the Mediterranean Assistance Unit (MAU), which until recently was only composed of CEDRE, ISPRA and FEDERCHIMICA. Beside these three entities, the Centre benefits from the support of CEFIC (European Community Federation of Chemical Industries) and its emergency support programme "ICE". In view of the lessons learnt from recent incidents, it was realised that, in order to strengthen its emergency assistance capacity, the Centre should enter into a co-operation agreement with the Mediterranean Operational Oceanography Network (MOON) which have proved very helpful in assisting the Centre with running drifting and forecasting models in several occasions. Lastly, the Centre has been preparing an agreement with the Sea Alarm Foundation, an association specialized in wildlife oil spills rescue operations. The Agreement, which will be signed during the present Meeting, does not only concern assistance in case of emergency but also envisages assistance from the Foundation in training activities. The Centre takes this opportunity to express its gratitude to the above mentioned organizations for their dedicated support and would also like to thank other organizations which, in the absence of a written agreement, have always kindly assisted the Centre such as ITOF and Environment Canada.

- **Sub regional Cooperation.**

40. As provided in the OPRC 1990 Convention, once national preparedness is set up, it is recommended to start negotiating with the neighbouring States in order to organise mutual assistance as a spill does not have any legal boundary. Several bi/multi-lateral sub-regional agreements have been negotiated in the past in the Mediterranean Sea. However, except for the RAMOGEPLAN and the LION PLAN, it has to be acknowledged that no other plan is actually in force, due to the lack of formal acceptance by one of the Parties.

41. Despite this fact, the Centre has tried to assist some sub-regional agreements by sponsoring participation to some sub-regional Meetings and also some sub-regional activities. However, without more direct involvement of the involved Parties, the objective of an efficient co-operation between neighbouring countries will not be reached.

- **Participation to international events related to oil spill preparedness and response.**

42. During the period under review, with the assistance of IMO, the Centre was able to organise the participation of the Contracting Parties to the INTERSPILL conference and exhibition which took place in Marseille in May 2009. This event was a unique opportunity for the Contracting Parties to attend high level presentations and also to visit the exhibition space where they were able to get information on the latest available equipment.

Information and communication

43. During the last biennium the Centre has continued improving the availability of on line information with a view to providing the Contracting Parties with an electronic version of the information previously contained in the paper based Regional Information System (RIS) which could be updated from their side, as far as national information is concerned. The online system also makes available all training material, guidelines and tools that could assist the Contracting Parties in their work. A description of RIS will be further detailed under Agenda item 5 in document REMPEC/WG.32/5.

Participation of the Centre into other fora.

44. The Centre, which was the first of its type, is seen as a valid model for regional cooperation and as such is requested from time to time to share its experience in other sea areas. During the period under review, in particular, the Centre was invited to participate in a workshop between the participating countries of the Indian Ocean Commission and has also received a request for information from the Lisbon Agreement.

45. The experience gained by the Centre on specific issues is also sought after and the Centre has been invited to participate in the global meeting on Ballast Water Management which was held in Perth Australia, as well as in a regional workshop on ballast water held in Odessa, Ukraine. On issues related to preparedness and response, the Centre has also participated in several regional workshops, giving an overview of the situation in the Mediterranean Sea.

46. The co-operation with other regional seas is ensured via *inter alia* the annual “Inter-Secretariats Meeting”, an initiative led by EMSA, which, in 2011, took place at the Centre’s premises and which is a valuable opportunity to discuss topics of common interest. When appropriate, the Centre endeavours to participate in regional meetings such as the HELCOM Maritime Response Group or the Maritime Safety Advisory Committee of the Black Sea Commission.

47. The Meeting is invited to take note of the information provided in this document and to comment as appropriate.

ANNEX I

**STATUS OF RATIFICATION
OF THE 2002 PREVENTION AND EMERGENCY PROTOCOL TO THE BARCELONA CONVENTION
AND THE 1994 OFFSHORE PROTOCOL**

CONTRACTING PARTIES	2002 PREVENTION AND EMERGENCY PROTOCOL TO THE BARCELONA CONVENTION	1994 OFFSHORE PROTOCOL
	Ratification Date	Ratification Date
ALBANIA	-	26 July 2001
ALGERIA	-	-
BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA	-	-
CROATIA	1 October 2003	-
CYPRUS	19 December 2007	16 May 2006
EUROPEAN COMMISSION	26 June 2004	-
EGYPT	-	-
FRANCE	2 July 2003	-
GREECE	27 November 2006	-
ISRAEL	-	-
ITALY	-	-
LEBANON	-	-
LIBYA	-	16 June 2005
MALTA	18 February 2003	-
MONACO	3 April 2002	-
MONTENEGRO	19 November 2007	-
MOROCCO	-	1 July 1999
SLOVENIA	16 February 2004	-
SPAIN	10 July 2007	-
SYRIA	11 April 2008	22 February 2011
TUNISIA	-	1 June 1998
TURKEY	3 June 2003	

ANNEX II

TITLE	DATE & LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	SOURCE OF FINANCING
R.S.S.O. 1 RATIFICATION OF RELEVANT INTERNATIONAL MARITIME CONVENTIONS			
Provide technical advice, assistance and training to the Contracting Parties for the ratification, transposition into national laws, and implementation of relevant international maritime conventions	10-11 November 2009 Podgorica, Montenegro	Implementation of the GloBallast Partnerships Project: REMPEC co-ordinated the organization of a National Training Course/ Awareness Raising Seminar On Ships' Ballast Water Management	GloBallast (IMO's ITCP)
	2-3 December 2009 Istanbul, Turkey	Implementation of the GloBallast Partnerships Project: A GloBallast Regional Training Course on the Legal Implementation of the Ballast Water Management Convention (BWM) was organised by REMPEC, in cooperation with the Undersecretariat for Maritime Affairs of the Republic of Turkey.	GloBallast (IMO's ITCP) & MTF (REMPEC)
	23-24 February 2010 Lattakia, Syria	Implementation of the GloBallast Partnerships Project: REMPEC co-ordinated the organization of a National Training Course/ Awareness Raising Seminar On Ships' Ballast Water Management.	GloBallast (IMO's ITCP)

TITLE	DATE & LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	SOURCE OF FINANCING
R.S.S.O. 1 RATIFICATION OF RELEVANT INTERNATIONAL MARITIME CONVENTIONS (Cont.)			
<i>(Cont.)</i>	1-3 June 2010 Istanbul, Turkey	Implementation of the GloBallast Partnerships Project: Second GloBallast Regional Task Force (RTF) Meeting All Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention were invited to attend the Meeting, which agreed on a “Draft Mediterranean Strategy on Ships’ Ballast Water Management and Invasive Species” , prepared on the basis of the work produced by the RTF’s Focus Groups and further developed with the assistance of the Secretariat and experts. The Meeting also served as a Regional Harmonisation Workshop, where common issues of concern were expected to be discussed.	GloBallast (IMO’s ITCP) & MTF (REMPEC)
	15-16 March 2011 Split, Croatia	Implementation of the GloBallast Partnerships Project: The GloBallast Regional Training Workshop on Compliance, Monitoring and Enforcement (CME) of the Ballast Water Management (BWM) Convention	GloBallast (IMO’s ITCP) & MTF (REMPEC)
Regional Workshop on the implementation of Annexes II and III of the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL)	26-29 April 2010 Malta	The main objective was the familiarization of senior government officials from Mediterranean countries with the MARPOL Convention and, in particular, its revised Annexes II and III to ensure their correct implementation.	MTF (REMPEC) & SAFEMED II
Regional Workshop on MARPOL Annex VI (Prevention of Air Pollution from Ships).	26-27 October 2010, Athens, Greece	The objectives of the Workshop were to familiarize participants and raise awareness in the Mediterranean region on the provisions of the revised MARPOL Annex VI, the benefits of ratification, procedures for the full implementation of the Annex, including enforcement both from the flag State and a port State perspective, and the requirements and procedures for the Mediterranean region to be designated as an Emission Control Area (ECA).	MTF (REMPEC) & SAFEMED II

(R.S.S.O. – Regional Strategy Specific Objective)

TITLE	DATE & LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	SOURCE OF FINANCING
R.S.S.O. 2 ENSURING EFFECTIVE MARITIME ADMINISTRATIONS			
Participation to the Master of Laws (LL.M) course at the International Maritime Law Institute (IMLI) for duly qualified candidates from the Mediterranean partners	2009-2011 Malta (IMLI)	One student, from Turkey, has been granted a scholarship for academic year 2009-2010 and she graduated on 1 May 2010. One student from Egypt has been granted a scholarship for academic year 2010-2011 and is now attending IMLI.	SAFEMED I and II
Participation to the Master of Sciences courses at the World Maritime University (WMU) for duly qualified candidates from the Mediterranean partners	2009-2011 Malmö, Sweden (WMU)	Three fellowships (two financed from SAFEMED I and one financed from SAFEMED II) were granted and the three students from Egypt, Syria and Turkey graduated in October 2010. Three SAFEMED II sponsored students, from Jordan, Tunisia and Turkey, are now attending the 2010/2011 WMU courses.	SAFEMED I and II
Assistance for the preparation of VIMSAS	2010-2011	National VIMSAS Workshops have been held in Jordan in February, in Israel and Turkey in June, in Syria in September, in Morocco in November 2010 and in Lebanon in March 2011.	SAFEMED II
Participation to the IMO Flag State Implementation Sub-Committee (FSI)	5-9 July 2009 21-25 February 2011 London, UK	SAFEMED II Project beneficiaries' participation in the 18 th and 19 th Sessions of the IMO FSI Sub-Committee was sponsored by the Project. Five beneficiaries participated and presented papers.	SAFEMED II
Seminar on Recognition and Monitoring of Recognised Organisations (ROs)	14-15 December 2010 Barcelona, Spain	During the seminar SAFEMED II Project beneficiaries were given the possibility to exchange on the procedures followed by their respective administrations for the monitoring of classification societies which perform duties on behalf of the flag state.	SAFEMED II

TITLE	DATE & LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	SOURCE OF FINANCING
R.S.S.O. 3 STRENGTHENING MEDITERRANEAN MOU ON PORT STATE CONTROL			
Training Programme of PSC procedures for MED PSC inspectors and training of PSC Inspectors	September - November 2010	National Tutoring Courses: Three tutoring courses were organized by EMSA within the framework of the SAFEMED II Project in 2010 in Morocco (20-23 Sept), in Turkey (18-22 Oct) and in Egypt (21-25 Nov).	SAFEMED II
Upgrading of Med MoU on PSC Info Centre	2010-2011 Casablanca, Morocco	A needs assessment exercise was carried out in 2010 with a view to upgrade the capacities of the Med MoU on PSC Info Centre located in Casablanca, Morocco. The actual updating of the Info Centre capacities is expected to take place during the second quarter of 2011.	SAFEMED II
R.S.S.O. 4 PROVISION OF RECEPTION FACILITIES IN PORTS			
R.S.S.O. 5 DELIVERY OF SHIP-GENERATED WASTES			
National Seminar on Waste in Marinas	20 October 2010 Cyprus	REMPEC supported a National Seminar on Waste in Marinas. This seminar could be replicated in other Mediterranean Coastal states.	MTF (REMPEC)

(R.S.S.O. – Regional Strategy Specific Objective)

TITLE	DATE & LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	SOURCE OF FINANCING
R.S.S.O. 6 IMPROVED MONITORING AND SURVEILLANCE OF ILLICIT DISCHARGES			
Co-ordinated Surveillance Operation in the Western Mediterranean - OSCAR MED	12-16 October 2009 Hyeres France	A Coordinated Surveillance Operation in the Western Mediterranean (OSCAR-MED) of illicit discharges of oil at sea was organised by REMPEC, in close cooperation with the French Préfecture Maritime de la Méditerranée. Aircrafts from Spain, France and Italy participated in the operation whilst EMSA supported the operation by providing the required satellite images. Representatives of MOON (Mediterranean Operational Oceanography Network) provided drifting forecasts for the oil spills detected both by satellite and aircraft. Monaco and Tunisia attended as observers This coordinated surveillance operation was the first one in the Mediterranean Sea.	MTF (REMPEC) & Contracting Parties providing resources for the operation
National Training Course on Aerial Surveillance of Marine Pollution	16-18 December 2009 Sale Morocco	Following a request from Morocco, the Centre organized a National Training Course on Aerial Surveillance of Marine Pollution. Sixteen participants, from the "Forces Royales Air", the "royal gendarmerie" and the "royal navy", benefited from the course. The training course aimed at providing the participants with technical expertise for the aerial observation of accidental pollution and illicit discharges. The lectures included technical aspects of observation, reporting procedures, collection of evidence as well as legal aspects.	MTF (REMPEC)
R.S.S.O.7 TO IMPROVE THE LEVEL OF ENFORCEMENT AND OF THE PROSECUTION OF DISCHARGE OFFENDERS			
Participation in the inception Meetings of a network of law enforcement officials	8-9 June 2009 and 15 -16 March 2010 Marseilles (France)	Two meetings were organized by the World Bank in their offices in Marseilles (France) in cooperation with the French Ministry of Justice in order to promote the idea of setting up a network of law enforcement officials specialized on the MARPOL Annex I. 13 Mediterranean coastal States did participate, it was recommended that REMPEC should act as a secretariat for this network.	MTF (REMPEC) and World Bank

(R.S.S.O. – Regional Strategy Specific Objective)

TITLE	DATE & LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	SOURCE OF FINANCING
R.S.S.O. 8 TO REDUCE THE POLLUTION GENERATED BY PLEASURE CRAFT ACTIVITIES			
R.S.S.O. 9 REDUCED RISK OF COLLISIONS BY ESTABLISHING SHIP'S ROUTEING SYSTEMS			
GIS maritime traffic flows in the Mediterranean Sea	2010	The data of the Geographical Information Systems (GIS) on maritime traffic flows in the Mediterranean Sea for the years 2008-2009 have been acquired.	SAFEMED II
R.S.S.O. 10 IMPROVED CONTROL OF MARITIME TRAFFIC			
R.S.S.O. 11 IDENTIFICATION OF PARTICULARLY SENSITIVE SEA AREAS (PSSAs)			
R.S.S.O. 12 TO ESTABLISH PROCEDURES FOR DESIGNATION OF PLACES OF REFUGE IN ORDER TO MINIMIZE THE RISKS OF WIDESPREAD POLLUTION			
To identify national procedures	2010-2011	Dissemination of a questionnaire related to national procedures for identification of places of refuge. 16 countries out of 23 replied.	MTF (REMPEC) & SAFEMED II

(R.S.S.O. – Regional Strategy Specific Objective)

TITLE	DATE & LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	SOURCE OF FINANCING
R.S.S.O. 13 TO EXAMINE THE POSSIBILITY OF DESIGNATING THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA AS A SOX EMISSION CONTROL AREA, UNDER MARPOL ANNEX VI			
Assistance in the preparation of a proposal to designate the Mediterranean Sea as a SOx Emission Control Area (SECA) under MARPOL Annex VI	2010	See Regional Workshop on MARPOL Annex VI under R.S.S.O 1	MTF (REMPEC) & SAFEMED II
R.S.S.O. 14 TO ENSURE THAT ADEQUATE EMERGENCY TOWING CAPACITY IS AVAILABLE THROUGHOUT THE MEDITERRANEAN			
To evaluate the capacity number and location of tugs throughout the Mediterranean ports	October 2009	A study was disseminated to Contracting Parties.	SAFEMED I
R.S.S.O. 15 PREVENTION OF ACCIDENTS IN COMMERCIAL PORTS AND OIL TERMINALS			
To evaluate the capacities in terms of safety of the Mediterranean Oil Terminals	2010	The Centre is in contact with the Oil Companies International Marine Forum (OCIMF) which is currently developing a scheme aiming at enhancing safety of operations at terminals.	External & MTF (REMPEC)
R.S.S.O. 16 TO ENHANCE THE LEVELS OF PRE-POSITIONED EQUIPMENT UNDER THE DIRECT CONTROL OF MEDITERRANEAN STATES			

R.S.S.O. 17 PARTICIPATION OF THE REGIONAL SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL INSTITUTIONS IN R&D ACTIVITIES AND FACILITATION OF TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY			
Co-operation with the scientific community	2009-2011	REMPEC has continued with its close co-operation with the Mediterranean Operational Oceanography Network (MOON) with regard to oil forecast models and meteo-oceanographic data.	MTF (REMPEC) & External (MOON)
Participation in the relevant international fora	2009- 2011	The Centre actively participated and contributed to the work of IMO OPRC-HNS Technical Group primarily through the work undertaken by the Mediterranean Technical Working Group (MTWG) which acted as a regional forum through which the Contracting Parties indirectly contributed to the work carried out by the international forum. The Centre also liaises and participates as appropriate with the other European Regional Agreements.	MTF (REMPEC)
R.S.S.O. 18 TO IMPROVE DECISION-MAKING PROCESS THROUGH DEVELOPMENT AND INTRODUCTION OF TECHNICAL AND DECISION SUPPORT TOOLS			
Co-operation with the Mediterranean Operational Oceanography Network (MOON)	20 April 2009	The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Mediterranean Operational Oceanography Network (MOON) members and REMPEC have been signed for a duration of five years. Contracting Parties have the possibilities to benefit from MOON services, during a marine pollution incident, for exercise of training purposes.	MTF (REMPEC)
Update and upgrade as necessary REMPEC information system	23 December 2009	A new website for the Centre was launched. It includes <i>inter alia</i> detailed country profiles providing information on the level of implementation of the Prevention and Emergency Protocol.	MTF (REMPEC)
Development of a decision support tool for oil spill waste management	March 2011	In the framework of the MTWG, a study on oil spill waste management has been undertaken, followed by the drafting of the Mediterranean Oil Spill Waste Management Guidelines and the corresponding online application made available on REMPEC's website.	MTF (REMPEC)

TITLE	DATE & LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	SOURCE OF FINANCING
R.S.S.O. 18 TO IMPROVE DECISION-MAKING PROCESS THROUGH DEVELOPMENT AND INTRODUCTION OF TECHNICAL AND DECISION SUPPORT TOOLS (Cont.)			
Review and update as necessary the Regional Information System (RIS)	January 2011	The content of the database on alerts and accidents in the Mediterranean Sea has been updated with 2010 data and can now be accessed online. Consequently. The statistical report and the Geographical Information System files have been updated.	MTF (REMPEC)
Revise decision-making tools format with the support of expertise	December 2009, March 2010, London October 2010	REMPEC signed an agreement with CEDRE for the revision of MIDSIS-TROCS Version 2.0. A Steering Committee composed by IMO, CEDRE, Transport Canada and ITOFF has been established under the leadership of REMPEC to collaborate and supervise the revision of the tool. Following a tender, REMPEC selected a company for the implementation of the project which is expected to be completed by August 2011.	MTF (REMPEC)
Maintaining the level of preparedness of the Mediterranean Assistance Unit (MAU)	2009	The MAU Agreements with FEDERCHIMICA, CEDRE and ISPRA (formerly ICRAM) have been renewed for a period of two years.	MTF (REMPEC)
R.S.S.O. 19 TO INCREASE THE LEVEL OF KNOWLEDGE IN THE FIELD OF PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE			
To organize and deliver a regional workshop on contingency planning systems in the Mediterranean region	11 – 12 May 2009 Marseille, France	A Regional Government and Industry Workshop on Co-operation, Preparedness for and Response to Oil Spills in the Mediterranean assessing the level of preparedness and identifying gaps in the region was co-organised by REMPEC and MOIG.	MTF (REMPEC) & External (MOIG)

TITLE	DATE & LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	SOURCE OF FINANCING
R.S.S.O. 19 TO INCREASE THE LEVEL OF KNOWLEDGE IN THE FIELD OF PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE (Cont.)			
To test and improve through the organisation of alert exercises the response network's reaction capacity.	April to November 2010	REMPEC involvement in "EURONYME" 2009 within the RAMOGE agreement in June 2009 in France, a national exercise in Algeria in April 2010, a national "SIMULEX" exercise in Morocco in June 2010, "MALTEX" 2010 in Malta in October 2010, and "RA-ATUM VII" in Egypt in November 2010 - Two Hazardous and Noxious Substances (HNS) alerts and communications exercises with activation of MAU (Israel, December 2009) and activation of the ICE network (Spain and Morocco, December 2009).	MTF (REMPEC)
Sub-Regional Workshop on Contingency Planning for Hazardous and Noxious Substances (HNS) incidents	17-20 January 2011 Egypt	The workshop in Arabic language was organised by REMPEC in collaboration with the Egyptian Environment Affairs Agency (EEAA) and the Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport, (AASTMT). The objectives of the workshop were to facilitate the development of national contingency plans for the response to HNS in the marine environment and the accession and implementation of the OPRC HNS Protocol 2000.	IMO's ITCP
R.S.S.O. 20 TO REVISE EXISTING AND DEVELOP NEW RECOMMENDATIONS, PRINCIPLES AND GUIDELINES AIMED AT FACILITATING INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND MUTUAL ASSISTANCE, WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE PREVENTION AND EMERGENCY PROTOCOL			
Mediterranean Guidelines on Oiled Shoreline Assessment	2009-2010	With the assistance of IMO-OPRC HNS Technical Group and within the framework of the MTWG the Mediterranean Guidelines on Oiled Shoreline Assessment have been developed and were published in English and French, in September 2009, and disseminated to the Contracting Parties.	MTF (REMPEC)
New edition of the Guidelines for the use of dispersants for combating oil pollution at sea in the Mediterranean region	2010-2011	In the framework of the MTWG programme of activity, The draft of the new edition of the guidelines was submitted for comments to the MTWG, and individual Experts and the oil industry through IPIECA. The final draft is being submitted to the 10 th Focal Points Meeting of REMPEC for approval.	MTF (REMPEC)

(R.S.S.O. – Regional Strategy Specific Objective)

TITLE	DATE & LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	SOURCE OF FINANCING
R.S.S.O. 21 DEVELOPMENT OF SUB-REGIONAL OPERATIONAL AGREEMENTS AND CONTINGENCY PLANS			
The Fourth Meeting of Competent National Authorities responsible for the Implementation of the Sub-Regional Plan against Marine Pollution in the South-Western Mediterranean	Tunis, Tunisia, 11 October 2010.	The Meeting organised by Tunisia with the support of REMPEC, assessed the respective and common developments since the 3rd Meeting held in Tunis on 21 and 22 April 2008. The Meeting reviewed the communication procedures between the Parties to optimize the operability of the agreement. The Parties discussed the program of activities for the period 2011-2012.	MTF (REMPEC)
Sub-regional Train the Trainer Course on Shoreline Assessment	12 – 14 October 2010, Tunis, Tunisia	Thirty-five (35) participants from Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia, as well as representatives of the oil industry attended the training. The training course was organized by the Agence Nationale de Protection de l'Environnement (ANPE), IMO, REMPEC and MOIG. According to the objectives of the meeting, the heads of delegations of the three states confirmed that a series of local training courses will be organized to disseminate the knowledge learned during the training course.	IMO's ITCP, MTF (REMPEC) and MOIG
Support the organization of sub-regional joint activities and meetings	12-14 May 2010 Opatija, Croatia	REMPEC financed the participation of Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Montenegro and Slovenia to the First Adriatic Oil Spill Conference.	MTF (REMPEC)
Provide expertise for the development and implementation of countries national preparedness and response systems.	24-28 May 2010 7-9 September 2010 in Bar, Montenegro	REMPEC organised a field mission in Montenegro to meet the relevant competent authorities and gather the required information for the revision of the Draft national contingency plan.(NCP) With the support of the Maritime Safety Department (MSD), REMPEC organized a National Workshop on Contingency Planning and Table Top Exercise in view of testing the revised draft NCP. The recommendations resulting from the workshop served as basis for the finalisation of the draft NCP which has been translated and is currently in the process of adoption.	IMO's ITCP

(R.S.S.O. – Regional Strategy Specific Objective)

TITLE	DATE & LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	SOURCE OF FINANCING
R.S.S.O. 21 DEVELOPMENT OF SUB-REGIONAL OPERATIONAL AGREEMENTS AND CONTINGENCY PLANS (Cont.)			
<i>(Cont.)</i>	30 June 2010 Tripoli, Libya	At the invitation of Environment General Authority (EGA), REMPEC participated in a workshop organized on the protection of the marine environment. REMPEC and EGA introduced and discussed their respective work in the field of risk of oil spills and invasive alien species via ballast water from loading tankers.	MTF (REMPEC)
	13 July 2010 Tirana, Albania	A Meeting with the Inter-Ministerial Working Group was organised by REMPEC to provide recommendations for the revisions of the Draft NCP and the preparation of a National Workshop on Contingency Planning and Table-Top Exercise.	MTF (REMPEC)
	13-17 September 2010 26 th November 2010 21 st December 2010	A field mission was organised by the competent authorities and REMPEC to meet the relevant competent authorities and gather the required information for the revision of the Draft national contingency plan.(NCP) The revised Draft National Contingency Plan and its Annexes were sent to the Albanian Authorities who translated the documents in Albanian and circulated them to the Inter-Ministerial Working Group for comments.	