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

11th Meeting of the Focal Points of the Regional
Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre
for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC)

REMPEC/WG.37/15

Date: 29 May 2015

Malta, 15-17 June 2015

Original: English

Agenda Item 15

PROPOSED PROGRAMME OF WORK OF REMPEC FOR BIENNIUM 2016/2017

Note by the Secretariat

SUMMARY

Executive Summary: This document contains in its Annex the proposed programme of work of REMPEC for the biennium 2016/2017 and explains the rationale used to prepare it.

Action to be taken: Paragraph 5

Related documents: REMPEC/WG.37/7, REMPEC/WG.37/8, REMPEC/WG.37/9,
REMPEC/WG.37/10, REMPEC/WG.37/11/1, REMPEC/WG.37/12,
REMPEC/WG.37/13, REMPEC/WG.37/14/1, REMPEC/WG.37/14/2,
REMPEC/WG.37/INF.3

Background

1 The proposed programme of work of the Centre for the biennium 2016/2017, which is presented in the **Annex** to the present document, was prepared within the context of the Draft Strategic Framework of the United Nations Environment Programme/Mediterranean Action Plan (UNEP/MAP)'s Integrated Six-Year Programme of Work for the period 2016 to 2021 ("the draft Strategic Framework") (REMPEC/WG.37/INF.3).

2 It should be noted that the draft Strategic Framework was discussed by the Meeting of the MAP Focal Points, which was convened in Athens, Greece from 19 to 21 May 2015. So far, the numbering of the activities in the draft programme of work of the Centre reflects the numbering in the draft Strategic Framework in order to facilitate cross-references. However, since the structure and numbering of the draft Strategic Framework will be modified with a view to reflecting the outcome of the discussions held at the Meeting of the MAP Focal Points, the present Meeting is requested to only focus on the technical aspects related to the activities listed in the draft programme of work of the Centre. Once the draft is considered, discussed and agreed upon by the present Meeting, the final version will be adapted to the new structure and numbering of the revised draft Strategic Framework and transmitted to the MAP Secretariat for its inclusion in the MAP Programme of Work, which will be submitted for approval by the next Meeting of the MAP Focal Points scheduled for October 2015 prior to its submission for adoption by the Nineteenth Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols, to be tentatively held in February 2016 in Greece.

3 The draft Strategic Framework, designed to give a clearer picture of the main goals and strategies followed by MAP as a whole, does not hinder the relevance of the priorities and Specific Objectives identified in the Revised Draft Regional Strategy for Prevention of and Response to Marine Pollution from Ships (2016-2021), reproduced in Appendix 1 of document REMPEC/WG.37/11/1, and

the proposed programme of work of the Centre was prepared on the basis of such priorities and Specific Objectives.

4 On the financial side, further to the instruction of the MAP Secretariat and, taking into account that the MAP budget for the biennium 2016/2017 will be discussed at the next Meeting of the MAP Focal Points scheduled for October 2015, the draft programme of work of the Centre does not provide any specific figure although budgetary considerations were duly made when preparing it.

Actions requested by the Meeting

5 The Meeting is invited to:

- .1 **take note** of the information provided in the present document; and
- .2 **consider, discuss and agree** upon the proposed programme of work of REMPEC for the biennium 2016/2017, which is presented in the **Annex** to the present document, and to propose it for approval by the next Meeting of the MAP Focal Points prior to its submission for adoption by the Nineteenth Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols.

Annex

Proposed programme of work of the Centre for the biennium 2016/2017

Theme 1: LAND- AND SEA-BASED POLLUTION

Strategic Outcome 1.2: Strengthening and implementation of marine pollution prevention and control legislation and policies at national level, including through enforcement.

No.	Key Outputs	Main Activities	Means of Implementation	Lead: CU or Component	Other: CU and/or Components	Partners
1.2.2	National Action Plans (NAPs) developed to implement the Regional Strategy for Prevention and Response to Marine Pollution from Ships	1. Development of a NAP template	Consultancy	REMPEC	CU	IMO European Commission EMSA Private sector
		2. National assessment and development of NAP by each Contracting Party	Workshop Consultancy	REMPEC	CU	IMO European Commission EMSA Private sector
		3. Assistance to four Contracting Parties, which so request, to develop their NAP	Consultancy Field work	REMPEC	CU	IMO European Commission EMSA Private sector
1.2.3	National policy and regulatory pollution prevention and control frameworks, including enforcement, strengthened, updated and integrated into national and sectorial processes (e.g. budget and policy	1. Organisation of a Meeting of MENELAS	Meeting	REMPEC	CU	IMO INTERPOL EMSA CBSS (ENPRO) OSPAR (NSN) Bonn Agreement

	development including policies on the use of economic instruments)	2. Maintenance and update of the MENELAS information system	Service contract	REMPEC	CU	IMO INTERPOL EMSA CBSS (ENPRO) OSPAR (NSN) Bonn Agreement
		3. Provision of expertise to up to three Contracting Parties, which so request, for the development and implementation of their national preparedness and response systems	Consultancy Field work	REMPEC	CU	IMO European Commission EMSA Private sector

Strategic Outcome 1.3: Monitoring and assessment of marine pollution, including through inventories of pollutant loads to marine and coastal environment.

No.	Key Outputs	Main Activities	Means of Implementation	Lead: CU or Component	Other: CU and/or Components	Partners
1.3.1	National pollution and litter monitoring programs updated to include the relevant pollution and litter EcAp indicators and implemented through regular quality assurance programmes at national and regional levels and data reporting	1. Preparation of specific guidelines to determine the application of charges at reasonable costs for the use of port reception facilities or, where appropriate, the application of a No-Special-Fee system	Consultancy	REMPEC	MED POL	IMO European Commission EMSA Private sector

1.3.2	Inventories of pollutant loads (NBB, PRTR from land based sources, and from offshore and shipping) to marine and coastal environment regularly reported and updated at national, sub-regional and regional levels, and supported by quality assurance systems	1. Update of the Mediterranean Integrated Geographical Information System on Marine Pollution Risk Assessment and Response (MEDGIS-MAR) with reports on oil and HNS marine pollution incidents	In house-expertise	REMPEC	MED POL	IMO European Commission EMSA Private sector
1.3.3	Marine pollution assessment maps (load levels and hotspots) developed and updated to show trends at national, sub-regional and regional levels	1. Production of maps of illicit discharges and accidental marine pollution from ships and offshore installation	In house-expertise	REMPEC	MED POL	IMO European Commission EMSA Private sector

Strategic Outcome 1.4: Technical assistance and guidance on priority sectors.

No.	Key Outputs	Main Activities	Means of Implementation	Lead: CU or Component	Other: CU and/or Components	Partners
1.4.1	Technical support provided and Guidelines as well as decision-support tools developed and updated for key substances and relevant sectors taking into account best available techniques and practices and SCP tools and practices. Priority sectors include marine	1. Assistance to two Contracting Parties, which so request, to identify the minimum required level of pre-positioned State-controlled spill response equipment	Consultancy Field work In house-expertise	REMPEC	CU	IMO European Commission EMSA Private sector

litter, desalination, agriculture, industrial sector, hazardous waste, dumping, shipping and offshore, including up-to-date efficient authorization and integrated permitting and inspection systems	2. Maintenance and update of the Regional Information System (RIS) as well as update of the related inventory of pre-positioned spill response equipment	Service contract	REMPEC	CU	IMO European Commission EMSA Private sector
	3. Update of the Guidelines on Risk of gaseous releases resulting from marine incidents	In-house expertise Consultancy	REMPEC	CU	IMO European Commission EMSA Private sector
	4. Update of the Principles and Guidelines on cooperation and mutual assistance	In-house expertise, Consultancy	REMPEC	CU	IMO European Commission EMSA Private sector
	5. Revision and update of the existing IT-based decision support tools, including REMPEC's website and MIDSIS-TROCS	In-house expertise Service contract	REMPEC	CU	Cedre CANUTEC ITOPF
	6. Support for the organisation of sub-regional joint activities and meetings	In-house expertise Meetings	REMPEC	CU	IMO European Commission EMSA Private sector

Strategic Outcome 1.5: Enhanced capacity at regional, sub-regional and national levels for monitoring, pollutant inventories, policy implementation, authorization and inspections, and compliance with national legislation.

No.	Key Outputs	Main Activities	Means of Implementation	Lead: CU or Component	Other: CU and/or Components	Partners
1.5.1	Training programs and workshops held at regional and sub-regional levels in areas such as pollution monitoring, pollutant inventories, policy implementation, common technical guidelines, authorization and inspections bodies and compliance with national legislation	1. Assistance to two Contracting Parties, which so request, to develop and implement their national training programme on response to oil and HNS spills	Training Consultancy	REMPEC	CU	IMO European Commission EMSA Private sector
		2. Implementation of the Project for Preparedness for Oil-polluted Shoreline clean-up and Oiled Wildlife interventions – POSOW	Training Service contract In house-expertise	REMPEC	CU	Cedre ISPRA AASTMT DG-MARINWA FEPORTS
1.5.2	Pilot projects implemented on marine litter, POPs, mercury, and illicit discharges	1. Facilitation of the participation of Contracting Parties to surveillance operations	Surveillance operation	REMPEC	CU	IMO INTERPOL EMSA CBSS (ENPRO) Bonn Agreement

Strategic Outcome 1.6: Enhanced cooperation at regional, sub-regional and national levels to prevent and control marine pollution.

No.	Key Outputs	Main Activities	Means of Implementation	Lead: CU or Component	Other: CU and/or Components	Partners
1.6.1	Cooperation with stakeholders at all levels developed and strengthened through agreements, exchange of best practices and synergies	1. Support to Contracting Parties, which so request, for the preparation and implementation of agreements with neighbouring coastal States to share emergency towing equipment to assist ships in distress in the Mediterranean	Consultancy Field work In-house expertise	REMPEC	CU	IMO European Commission EMSA Private sector
		2. Assessment of possible synergies to interconnect the Regional Information System (RIS) with the Common Emergency Communication and Information System (CECIS)	Service contract	REMPEC	CU	IMO European Commission EMSA Private sector
		3. Facilitation of the participation of national and regional research institutions and industry in the relevant international fora with a view to making better known the results of research and development (R&D) activities undertaken in the Mediterranean region	Consultancy Field work In-house expertise	REMPEC	CU	IMO European Commission EMSA Private sector

		<p>4. Organisation of a technical regional workshop (MEDEXPOL) on cooperation arrangements in the field of preparedness and response tools and HNS spills</p>	<p>Regional workshop Consultancy</p>	<p>REMPEC</p>	<p>CU</p>	<p>IMO European Commission EMSA Private sector</p>
		<p>5. Organisation of a high-level meeting on cooperation arrangements in the field of preparedness and response tools and HNS spills</p>	<p>Meeting</p>	<p>REMPEC</p>	<p>CU</p>	<p>IMO European Commission EMSA Private sector</p>

Theme 2: BIODIVERSITY AND ECOSYSTEMS

Strategic Outcome 2.1: Facilitation and coordination of the implementation of the obligations under the Convention, the SPA/Biodiversity Protocol, the SAP BIO, the Action Plans on Endangered Species and Key Habitats, and the Marine Protected Areas Regional Working Programme and 2020 Roadmap.

No.	Key Outputs	Main Activities	Means of Implementation	Lead: CU or Component	Other: CU and/or Components	Partners
2.1.7	Mediterranean Strategy on Ships' Ballast Water Management Strategy and Action Plan implemented and reviewed as necessary	1. Assessment of the level of implementation of the Mediterranean Strategy on Ships' Ballast Water Management, including its Action Plan and Timetable	Regional workshop	REMPEC	CU RAC/SPA	IMO EMSA
		2. Organisation of a regional training on Port State Control under the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments (BWM Convention) with emphasis on sampling and analysis of ballast water	Training Regional workshop	REMPEC	CU RAC/SPA	IMO EMSA
		3. Development of a regional risk assessment tool for compliance, monitoring and enforcement (CME) as	Service contract	REMPEC	CU RAC/SPA	IMO EMSA

		well as exemptions under the BWM Convention				
		4. Dissemination of the 2011 Guidelines for the control and management of ships' biofouling to minimise the transfer of invasive aquatic species	In house-expertise	REMPEC	CU RAC/SPA	IMO EMSA
		5. Development of a web-based Regional Ballast Water Information Exchange System	Service contract	REMPEC	CU RAC/SPA	IMO EMSA

Strategic Outcome 2.4: Technical assistance and common tools for the conservation of biodiversity with the aim to achieve the Good Environmental Status of the Mediterranean.

No.	Key Outputs	Main Activities	Means of Implementation	Lead: CU or Component	Other: CU and/or Components	Partners
2.4.2	Guidelines and other tools for the development and management of marine and coastal protected areas developed and updated	1. Dissemination of the IMO Guidelines for the reduction of underwater noise from commercial shipping to address adverse impacts on marine life	In house-expertise	REMPEC	CU RAC/SPA	IMO EMSA ACCOBAMS

Theme 3: CLIMATE CHANGE

Strategic Outcome 3.3: Better informed decision-making through research and scientific cooperation and improved availability and use of reliable data, information and tools.

No.	Key Outputs	Main Activities	Means of Implementation	Lead: CU or Component	Other: CU and/or Components	Partners
3.3.1	Adequate institutional and policy frameworks promoted, including a regional approach to disaster risk management	1. Assessment of the feasibility of designation as a sulphur oxides (SOx) Emission Control Area (ECA) certain areas of the Mediterranean Sea or the whole of the Mediterranean Sea	Consultancy	REMPEC	CU	IMO EMSA
		2. Assistance to Contracting Parties, which so request, to prepare a submission to IMO proposing the designation as a SOx ECA of the area or areas of the Mediterranean Sea identified under 1.	Regional workshop	REMPEC	CU	IMO EMSA

Theme 4: NATURAL RESOURCES

Strategic Outcome 4.1: Facilitation and coordination of the implementation of the obligations under the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols, and of programmes of measures in existing Regional Strategies and Action Plans.

No.	Key Outputs	Main Activities	Means of Implementation	Lead: CU or Component	Other: CU and/or Components	Partners
4.1.5	MAP regional strategies SAP BIO, SAP MED, Offshore Action Plan and Strategy to combat pollution from ships implemented in an integrated manner, as provided for in ICZM Protocol to enhance the sustainable use of marine and coastal resources.	1. Assistance to two Contracting Parties, which so request, to define procedures and draw up plan to deal with ships in distress	Consultancy Field work	REMPEC	CU PAP/RAC	IMO EMSA

Theme 5: GOVERNANCE

Strategic Outcome 5.1: Ensure institutional coherence, efficiency and accountability of UNEP/MAP bodies.

No.	Key Outputs	Main Activities	Means of Implementation	Lead: CU or Component	Other: CU and/or Components	Partners
5.1.1	Meetings (COP, Bureau, Focal points MAP and components) MCS EcAp CG Integrated programming processes	1. Organisation of the 12th Meeting of the Focal Points of REMPEC	Meeting	REMPEC	CU	IMO

Theme 6: MEDITERRANEAN ENVIRONMENT UNDER REVIEW

Strategic Outcome 6.1: Assessment of the Mediterranean Sea and Coasts for informed policy-making.

No.	Key Outputs	Main Activities	Means of Implementation	Lead: CU or Component	Other: CU and/or Components	Partners
6.1.4	EcAp based integrated monitoring and assessment programme implemented, updated and supported by a data information centre to be integrated into Info/MAP platform	1. Support for the development of a quality assurance programme for oil and HNS pollution from ships and offshore data reporting and collection in line with the EcAp Monitoring Programme	Meeting Consultancy	CU	MED POL REMPEC RAC/SPA Plan Bleu PAP/RAC INFO/RAC	