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

Regional Workshop on Data Sharing, Monitoring and
Reporting (MEDEXPOL 2024)

REMPEC/WG.57/1/2
Date: 23 August 2024

Lija, Malta, 25-26 September 2024

Original: English

Agenda Item 1: Adoption of the agenda

Annotated provisional agenda and draft timetable

For environmental and cost-saving reasons, this document will not be printed and is made available in electronic format only. Delegates are encouraged to consult the document in its electronic format and limit printing.

Note by the Secretariat

This document provides brief information on the actions to be taken by the Workshop as well as a draft timetable for the Workshop. This timetable prepared by the Secretariat is of a tentative nature and may be modified by the Workshop, as appropriate.

Introduction

1 The Regional Workshop on Data Sharing, Monitoring and Reporting (MEDEXPOL 2024), hereinafter referred to as the Meeting, is being convened in Lija, Malta from 25 to 26 September 2024, pursuant to the Programme of Work (PoW) and Budget for 2024-2025 of the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), also referred to as UNEP/MAP.

2 The principal objectives of the Workshop are:

- .1 to assist the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention in fulfilling their obligations under the 2002 Prevention and Emergency Protocol and the 1994 Offshore Protocol of the Barcelona Convention, specifically in reporting, monitoring, and data sharing on marine pollution incidents;
- .2 to raise awareness and visibility of the tools available for the reporting, monitoring, and data sharing needs; and
- .3 to foster Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention ownership of REMPEC's platforms as interface for national activities related to the implementation of both Protocols.

3 All REMPEC OPRC Focal Points were invited to nominate their representatives to participate at the Workshop. The invitation to attend the Workshop was also extended to the specialised agencies of the UNEP/MAP, other governmental and non-governmental organisations, the activities of which are relevant to the work of the Centre.

4 In order to assist the Workshop in its work, the following annotations to the provisional agenda provide information on the actions the Meeting will be invited to take under each agenda item.

Opening of the Workshop

5 The Workshop will open on Wednesday, 25 September 2024 at 0900 hours and is expected to close on Thursday, 26 September 2024 at 1630 hours.

Organisation of the Workshop

Rules of Procedure

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

Election of Officers

7 **The Workshop will be invited** to elect a Chairperson, a Vice-Chairperson, and a Rapporteur.

Working Languages

8 The working languages of the Workshop will be English and French. Simultaneous English/French/English interpretation services will be provided during the Workshop. All working documents will be available in both official languages of the Centre, i.e. in English and in French. Information documents will be available in their original language unless a translation is provided in the second working language.

Related Documents

9 For reasons of economy, Workshop documents and documents referred to during the Workshop which have already been issued for any other REMPEC meeting will **not** be reissued. Delegations are requested to bring their own copies of such documents.

Agenda Item 1: Adoption of the Agenda

10 The agenda, as proposed in document REMPEC/WG.57/1/1/Rev.1 and annotated in the present document, will be proposed for adoption by the Workshop. The Workshop will also be invited to agree on a timetable to carry out its work. A draft timetable, which is of a tentative nature and may be modified by the Meeting, as appropriate, is proposed in the **Annex** to the present document.

Agenda Item 2: Reporting - Correlation Between Reporting Commitment, Benefits, and Incentives for Effective Reporting

11 The Secretariat will introduce document REMPEC/WG.57/2/1 ‘Reporting on the implementation of activities’ which presents a summary of a comparative review of different reporting obligations of Contracting Parties, relative to maritime transport and offshore activities, under the various applicable governance systems. Findings from the comparison are illustrated and opportunities to facilitate reporting and encourage further reporting are presented. Additional considerations are proposed regarding minimum threshold of spills for reporting, in view of improving significance of data collection on acute pollution events.

12 In its presentation, the Secretariat will refer to the ‘Comparative review of existing reporting procedures and formats, at international and regional level’ as outlined in document [REMPEC/WG.51/INF.10](#) which was presented to the 14th Meeting of the Focal Points of REMPEC (Online, May 2021). The presentation will address the objective and benefits of reporting, both at national and regional levels, and will explore future options for capitalising the reporting practices and outputs.

13 The Secretariat will then introduce the document REMPEC/WG.57/2/2 ‘Reporting in Case of Emergency’. The document prepared jointly by REMPEC and the European Commission’s European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO), provides information on the consultation process conducted by REMPEC to implement the outcomes of the 14th meeting of the Focal Points of REMPEC (May 2021) and the proposed steps towards the establishment of a Common Emergency Communication System in the Mediterranean, in parallel with the commencement of the new CECIS MP development, planned for late autumn 2024.

14 In its presentation, the Secretariat will refer to the decision of the 14th meeting of the Focal Points of REMPEC, as detailed in its report [REMPEC/WG.51/13](#), agreeing on the use of the Common Emergency Communication and Information System for Marine Pollution (CECIS MP) by all Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention, as a Common Emergency Communication System for the Mediterranean, for the request of assistance and consequent adaptations. The representative of DGECHO will present the New CECIS MP and way forward to integrate these adaptations considering the new CECIS Marine Pollution facilities and limitations

15 **The Workshop will be invited to take note** of the information provided and consider the proposals put forward by the Secretariat in documents REMPEC/WG.57/2/1 and REMPEC/WG.57/2/2.

Agenda Item 3: Monitoring - A new challenge for Enhancing Mediterranean Quality Status

16 Under this agenda item, the Secretariat will introduce document REMPEC/WG.57/3 ‘A new challenge for Enhancing Mediterranean Quality Status’, which provides a summary of the monitoring

obligations relative to maritime transport and offshore activities in the framework of the Barcelona Convention, including reference to formats and guidance documents available. The document also includes two “to-do-lists” aiming at easing consultation and application of guidance documents, standards and supporting document, in relation to monitoring offshore activities and shipping incidents, and their related pollution. It also recalls the usefulness of the results of monitoring of pollution related with maritime transport and offshore activities for the preparation of the periodic Quality Status Report of the Mediterranean. Finally, some considerations concerning the possibility to provide additional guidance to support CPs in fulfilling their monitoring obligations to improve monitoring and assessment of CI19, particularly in relation to impacts on biota, are provided

17 In its presentation, the Secretariat will refer to the report of the 4th Meeting of the Barcelona Convention Offshore Oil and Gas Group (OFOG) Sub-Group on Environmental Impact (Malta May 2023), [REMPEC/WP.55/11](#), which agreed about the five (5) key indicators of IMAP Common Indicators for the Oil and Gas industry, and the report of the 15th Meeting of REMPEC Focal Points (Malta, June 2023), [REMPEC/WG.56/8](#), which requested the Secretariat to continue working on the development of IMAP Common Indicator 19 to contribute to the 2023 Med QSR.

18 The Secretariat will also refer to the supporting documents developed by REMPEC to facilitate the monitoring of Oil and HNS spills, as a result to shipping and offshore activities: the Guidance Factsheets of the IMAP CI 19 ([REMPEC/WG.51/9/1](#)), the revised DSs/DDs for the IMAP CI 19, prepared in coordination with INFORAC provided in Annex 2 of the document [REMPEC/WG.56/3/4/Rev.1](#), the document ‘Best practice review of Descriptor 8 (D08C04, 2018 Reporting) of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD)’, as laid down in document [REMPEC/WG.56/INF.6](#), illustrating the monitoring activities required after pollution events due to ship and offshore activities.

19 **The Workshop will be invited to take note** of the information provided and consider the proposals put forward by the Secretariat in document REMPEC/WG.57/3.

Agenda Item 4: Data Sharing - Towards a Country profile integrated Platform for enhancing Prevention, Preparedness, and Response

20 The Secretariat will introduce document REMPEC/WG.57/4/1 ‘Restructuring of the Country Profile to facilitate data collection, categorisation, update and consequent actions’ aiming at contributing to the implementation of a common approach on data sharing and to facilitate Contracting Parties role in their data submission and consultation. To do so, a proposal to review and adjust the structure of the Country Profile, with the ultimate aim to facilitate the collection and utilization of datasets for statistical analysis and studies at regional level, could be developed. The proposal could consider the feedback received to the Questionnaire on Data Sharing, Monitoring, and Reporting, distributed by REMPEC to the Contracting Parties in July 2024.

21 The Secretariat will present the continuous improvements of tools to support and incentivize Data Sharing, referring, in particular, to the decisions of the 11th Meeting of REMPEC Focal Points (May 2017), as detailed in paragraph 6 of the document [REMPEC/WG.37/10](#), and to last updates of MEDGIS-MAR, as considered by the 13th Meeting of REMPEC Focal Points (June 2019), and detailed in sub-paragraph 12.4 of Document [REMPEC/WG.45/8](#).

22 The Secretariat will also briefly present the results from the Questionnaire on Reporting, Monitoring and Data Sharing distributed in July 2024. Some opportunities to revise the Country Profile pages will be mentioned.

23 The Secretariat will then introduce the document REMPEC/WG.56/4.2 ‘Data capitalization: Raising awareness and periodic update – Brochure of the Study on Trends and Outlook of Marine Pollution’, and reflect on the added value from the possible update on the [Study on Trends and Outlook of Marine Pollution, Maritime Traffic and Offshore Activities in the Mediterranean](#) (December 2021),

prepared by REMPEC), in collaboration with the Plan Bleu Regional Activity Centre (PB/RAC), the Mediterranean Pollution Assessment and Control Programme (MEDPOL), and the Specially Protected Areas Regional Activity Centre (SPA/RAC), in the framework of the Programme of Work 2020-2021 of the Mediterranean Action Plan of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP/MAP), as well as on the opportunity to prepare periodically a synthetic brochure based on the updates of the Study. The usefulness of contribution from the CPs will be highlighted.

24 **The Workshop will be invited to take note** of the information provided and consider the proposals put forward by the Secretariat in documents REMPEC/WG.57/4/1 and REMPEC/WG.57/4/2.

Agenda Item 5: Any other business

25 **The Workshop will be invited** to consider any other relevant matters that may be raised under this agenda item.

26 Under this agenda item, organisations wishing to provide brief information on their activities that may be of interest to the Meeting will also be given the opportunity to do so.

27 Cedre will present information document REMPEC/WG.57/INF.3 about the ‘MANIFESTS *Genius* (From Gases and Evaporators risk assessment towards an Integrated management of sea and land pollution incidents)’ aims to address gaps for responding to accidental releases of volatile and gaseous HNS at sea.

Agenda Item 6: Adoption of the conclusions and recommendations

28 Under this agenda item, the Rapporteur will present the draft conclusions and recommendations, which result from the meeting discussions, as set out in document REMPEC/WG.57/WP.1.

29 **The Workshop Meeting will be invited** to review, amend, as appropriate, and adopt the conclusions and recommendations of the Meeting.

30 The report of the Meeting will be prepared by the Secretariat and circulated after the Meeting.

Closure of the Meeting

31 The Workshop is expected to be closed by the Chairperson on Thursday, 26 September 2024 at 1630 hours.

Annex
Draft timetable

Draft timetable

Day 1 – Wednesday, 25 September 2024		
08:30 – 09:00	Registration of the participants	
09:00 – 09:30	Opening of the Meeting	
09:30 – 10:00	Agenda Item 1	Adoption of the Agenda
10:00 – 11:00	Agenda Item 2	Reporting - Correlation Between Reporting Commitment, Benefits, and Incentives for Effective Reporting - Reporting on the implementation of activities
11:00 – 11:30	Coffee break	
11:30 -12:30	Agenda Item 2 (Cont)	Reporting - Correlation Between Reporting Commitment, Benefits, and Incentives for Effective Reporting - Reporting in case of Emergency
12:30 – 13:00		Round table and discussion
13:00 – 14:30	Lunch	
14:30 – 15:15	Agenda Item 3	Monitoring - A new challenge for Enhancing Mediterranean Quality Status - Offshore five (5) key IMAP Common Indicators
15:15 – 15:45	Coffee break	
15:45 - 16:30	Agenda Item 3	Monitoring - A new challenge for Enhancing Mediterranean Quality Status - Accidental spills Common Indicator 19 - Contribution to the development of the periodic Mediterranean Quality Status Report
16:30 -17:00		Round Table and discussion

Day 2 – Thursday, 26 September 2024		
09:00 – 10:30	Agenda Item 4	Data Sharing: Towards a Country profile integrated Platform for enhancing Prevention, Preparedness, and Response. - Restructuring of Country Profile
10:30 – 11:00	Coffee break	
11:00 -12:30	Agenda Item 4 (cont.)	Data Sharing: Towards a Country profile integrated Platform for enhancing Prevention, Preparedness, and Response. Data capitalization: Raising awareness and periodic update – Brochure of the Study on Trends and Outlook of Marine Pollution (REMPEC, December 2021).
12:30 – 13:00		Round Table and discussion
13:00 – 14:30	Lunch	
14:30 – 15.30	Agenda Item 5	AOB Cedre: Presentation of the MANIFESTS <i>Genius</i> Project
15:30 – 16:00	Agenda Item 6	Conclusions and Recommendations
16.00 -16.30	Closure of the workshop	