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UNEP-PNUE

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



MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN

**NATIONAL SEMINAR
ON PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE TO
ACCIDENTAL MARINE POLLUTION
FOR GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATORS
AND SENIOR MANAGERS**

**Durres, Albania
24 - 26 November 2003**

REPORT



FEBRUARY 2004

**NATIONAL SEMINAR
ON PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE TO ACCIDENTAL
MARINE POLLUTION FOR GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATORS
AND SENIOR MANAGERS**

Durres, Albania, 24 – 26 November 2003

R E P O R T

**NATIONAL SEMINAR ON PREPAREDNESS FOR AND RESPONSE TO
ACCIDENTAL MARINE POLLUTION
FOR GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATORS AND SENIOR MANAGERS**

Durres, Albania, 24-26 November 2003

REPORT

INTRODUCTION

1. A national seminar for government administrators and senior managers, on preparedness for and response to marine oil spills, was held in Durres, Albania, between 24 and 26 November 2003. The National Seminar was organized as part of the on-going programme of REMPEC's activities aimed at assisting the national authorities of the Mediterranean coastal States to develop their national systems for preparedness for and response to accidental marine pollution. It was financed by the funds allocated for this purpose in the Centre's budget.

2. The national seminar was based on the Level 3 IMO OPRC model-training course. The duration of the seminar was three days. It was aimed at senior administrators within the Albanian administration concerned with responsibilities related to marine pollution preparedness and response, as well as at senior managers in the oil sector and shipping/port industries. The majority of participants came from the Albanian public sector, including the port authorities, Harbour masters' offices, and Albanian Navy, with limited representation of Albanian shipping companies and spill clean-up contractors, whilst the oil industry was not actually represented.

3. The seminar formed part of REMPEC's activities aimed at improving the level of awareness /preparation of the national authorities in the field of preparedness and response to accidental marine pollution. Its complementary goal was to assure a follow up at the national level and to set priorities for the development of national capabilities to respond to accidental marine pollution caused by sea-based sources.

4. This training activity was organised following the preparation by REMPEC in 2003 of a Life Third Countries project proposal for the development of the national capacities in Albania for prevention, preparedness and response to accidental marine pollution, which the EC considered too ambitious.

5. It should be noted that in the beginning of the 1990s REMPEC already financed and implemented in Albania certain preliminary activities in this field. These included the preparation of the organizational framework for the national contingency plan, a comprehensive assessment of the situation in the country, drafting a project proposal for the completion of the national system, as well as a National Seminar for Decision-Makers and Governmental Officials in February 1995 and a National Training Course for future on-scene commanders in May 1996. Activities were interrupted in 1997 due to the circumstances beyond the control of REMPEC.

ORGANIZATION OF THE SEMINAR

6. The Ministry of Transport and Telecommunication, being the REMPEC's National Operational Focal Point, in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment of Albania, as the competent Albanian national authority, were jointly responsible for the selection and invitation of the participants. The Albanian administration's responsibilities also included making necessary logistic and administrative arrangements and providing secretarial services for the seminar, as well as the necessary audio-visual equipment. The arrangements were excellently co-ordinated by Mr. Shkelqim Xhaxhiu, Director of Maritime Transport, Ministry of Transport and Telecommunications of Albania.

7. The seminar was held in a lecture room at Hotel ANI in Durres, Albania's main port.

8. REMPEC covered the cost of simultaneous interpretation from English to Albanian at the Seminar, the cost of hiring the interpretation equipment, the cost of lecture room as well as the provision of lunches and coffee breaks for the participants.

9. REMPEC acted as the official point of contact with the national authorities and liaised with them on the dates and venue of the seminar and the identification of the appropriate participants. REMPEC prepared the seminar programme, which was approved by the Albanian authorities.

10. Cdr. Elias Sampatakakis, Programme Officer (HNS) was in charge of the organization and of ensuring the smooth running of the Seminar.

11. REMPEC prepared manuals that included printouts of lectures presented by REMPEC lecturers and Technical Information Papers by ITOFF, and requested IOPC Funds to provide the participants with relevant printed documents.

12. The seminar was conducted in English language with simultaneous interpretation from English into Albanian and vice versa.

13. The vast majority of participants who attended the national seminar were civil servants dealing with environmental affairs (23 out of 27) from various Ministries or governmental departments and agencies. Organisations which sent representatives to the seminar included the local and regional environmental agencies, port authorities from the main Albanian ports and the Albanian Navy command, including the Chief of Staff of Albanian Naval Forces. Several senior managers representing Albanian shipping companies and spill clean-up contractors also attended the Seminar. The list of participants is given in **ANNEX I**.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SEMINAR

14. The objectives of the seminar were, in addition to providing the participants with the basic knowledge on accidental marine pollution and response to it, to inform senior officials on the responsibilities of an oil spill response organisation and how to respond effectively to an accidental marine spill through the deployment of equipment and resources at the national level. Given the senior level of the intended participants, the seminar objective was to focus on issues of a strategic and policy nature, rather than simply on practical measures for oil spill response.

15. In order to achieve these objectives, REMPEC prepared a seminar programme, which comprised twelve (12) lectures, including one detailed presentation given by the national authorities, all of which were illustrated by various visual aids (PowerPoint presentations, videos). A copy of the seminar programme in English is reproduced in **ANNEX II**.

16. The final day of the seminar was devoted to a presentation by the national authorities of the current situation in Albania regarding preparedness and response to accidental marine pollution, made by the Deputy Minister of Environment of Albania, Mr. Besnik Baraj. This was followed by a lengthy and lively discussion of the issues related to future actions, aimed at developing a future strategy/action list.

17. The lectures were given by a team of four lecturers. REMPEC provided three lecturers, namely the Director of REMPEC R. Admiral R. Patrino, the Senior Programme Officer (OPRC) Mr. Darko Domovic and the Programme Officer (HNS) Cdr. Elias Sampatakakis. Mr. Joe Nichols, Deputy Director/Technical Advisor from IOPC Funds kindly agreed to lecture at the Seminar on issues related to compensation and handling of claims for oil pollution damage under the international compensation regime. IOPC Funds accepted to bear the costs (travel and DSA) of the participation in the Seminar of their lecturer. The list of presentations is attached in **ANNEX III**.

18. REMPEC provided each participant with a folder containing copies of all PowerPoint presentations delivered by the speakers, as well as a complete set of Technical Information Papers published by ITOPF. In addition IOPC Funds distributed to the participants a set of their own printed documents concerning compensation for oil pollution damage. A list of the ITOPF documents distributed by REMPEC to the participants is found at **ANNEX IV**.

19. Mr Shkelqim Xhaxhiu, Director of Maritime Transport, Ministry of Transport and Telecommunication of Albania, opened the seminar on behalf of the host country at 09.00 h on 24 November 2003. He thanked IMO, UNEP/MAP and REMPEC for their continuous support given to Albania and in particular for the organisation of this seminar. The English translation of his speech is given in **ANNEX V**.

20. Ms Gentiana Hasko, Director of Foreign Relations Department, Ministry of Environment of Albania also welcomed the participants and thanked REMPEC for organising this training activity in Albania.

21. In his opening address the Director of REMPEC, R. Admiral R. Patrino, referred to recent developments within the neighbouring Northern Adriatic region in the framework of the Adriatic Ionian Initiative, which included *inter alia* the preparation of a sub-regional agreement related to prevention of pollution from ships and to preparedness and response to accidental marine pollution, a sub-regional contingency plan, as well as improved coastal management activities in that region. He also recalled the outcome of the Ministerial Meeting of the Adriatic Ionian Initiative held in Slovenia in October 2003, which called for the extension of the future Sub-regional agreement for the Northern Adriatic to the south. He also emphasized that this objective met the full support of the Centre and could only be achieved with the active participation of all countries in the region.

22. However, he indicated that in order to have a realistic possibility to extend that sub-regional agreement, it was necessary that all participating countries should have in place necessary preparedness and response arrangements, including an approved national contingency plan and a minimum level of pre-positioned anti-pollution means and equipment to effectively respond to marine pollution incidents caused by oil.

23. Admiral Patrino also outlined main activities undertaken and/or envisaged by REMPEC in the context of the new Prevention and Emergency Protocol, including the recent evaluation of the Port Reception Facilities in Albania by the Consultant. This activity was organized by REMPEC with the financial support of IMO with a view to complementing the EC-MEDA Project on port reception facilities in the Mediterranean countries being currently carried out by REMPEC.

EVALUATION OF THE SEMINAR

24. The seminar was aimed at senior administrators in the Albanian administration and senior managers in the shipping and petroleum industries. To a large extent the participants were of the senior level expected, although there was no actual participation of representatives from the petroleum sector in Albania.

25. There was a high degree of active participation manifested, in particular, by the level of questions and interaction between lecturers and trainees during the presentations.

26. On the last day of the Seminar, the participants were asked to fill in a "Course Evaluation Form" prepared by REMPEC in English. These were aimed at obtaining an assessment of the seminar, but also at gathering suggestions that could be used for planning future training activities.

27. The Evaluation Form, prepared by REMPEC, did not include the name of the participants in order to obtain as objective and sincere replies as possible. A specimen of the "Course Evaluation Form" is given in **ANNEX VI**.

28. Out of 27 participants 20 returned dully filled in evaluation forms. Three of them made their remarks /recommendations in Albanian only.

29. A clear majority of the participants (80%) confirmed that the course went beyond their expectations and the remaining (20%) indicated that it met their expectations. It was made clear therefore that the lectures and seminar proceedings were much appreciated by the Albanian participants. All participants (100%) judged the lectures, their visual support and documents distributed as very helpful, interesting and informative, while (25%) of the participants found the lectures not long enough, thereby indicating the need to put more emphasis on basic aspects of how to deal with accidental marine pollution and respond to it, when it comes to organising a future training activity in the country, with a possible longer duration. This was also evident by their responses to the question regarding the sessions that were most helpful, where the vast majority of the responders indicated the lectures given on day 1 and 2 (legal framework and general introduction on marine pollution - Day 1, followed by Day 2 presentations on responses to spills at sea and onshore as well as organisation of spill response). It is noted that two of the responders to the Evaluation Form found the topics related to preparation and presentation of claims for compensation for oil pollution damage as quite advanced.

30. All participants indicated that either they were "very satisfied" (85%) or "satisfied" (15%) with the level of the Seminar.

ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION CONCLUSIONS

31. The final day (Day 3) of the seminar started with a presentation of the current situation in Albania regarding preparedness and response to accidental marine pollution, delivered by the Deputy Minister of Environment of Albania, Dr. Besnik Baraj.

32. Dr. Baraj first presented a case study of a marine pollution incident caused by HNS (sulphuric acid) that occurred in a port in Rio Grande, Brazil in 1998 and which was used as an example to emphasize the importance of strengthening the co-operation at the regional level, taking into consideration the current situation and needs of Albania in terms of developing marine pollution response capabilities.

33. He then presented the national legal framework indicating that Albania ratified the Barcelona Convention and five out of its six existing Protocols, while the new Prevention and Emergency Protocol was currently in the process of ratification which was envisaged to be finalized soon. He underlined that the Ministry of Environment of Albania is a new Ministry that was created just three years ago, and in his opinion certain deficiencies in terms of organizational structure and technical capabilities/expertise as well as the problem of restricted human resources, caused difficulties in implementing the existing legislation, co-ordination among various national authorities involved, and monitoring waste streams generated by shipping-related activities in Albanian ports.

34. Dr. Baraj also stressed the importance of raising awareness and education among people in Albania as a matter of priority, since it was strictly related to the health and well being of all the population. Regarding contingency planning, he stressed that at present due to the lack of any structured organization and planning for oil spill response, the national authorities simply resorted to improvised solutions in cases of dangerous occurrences. However, by concluding bilateral agreements with neighbouring countries and by co-operating in the framework of existing regional arrangements as far as MAP and REMPEC are concerned, the national authorities could be in position to develop plans and set up the necessary structures to respond to such emergencies, including those caused by natural disasters. It meant that Albania should make use of the knowledge, experience and means available in other countries as a starting point. In this regard Albania should, with the support of neighbouring countries and of REMPEC in particular, as a priority identify low-risk tasks and develop a modest plan of preliminary activities with assured follow up at the national level. The final goal of such activities would be the setting up of national capabilities to respond to accidental marine pollution caused by sea-based sources.

35. Admiral Patrino added that in his opinion complementary activities should be identified as a priority in the field of marine environmental protection in Albania, focusing on the following three areas:

- Improving the level of awareness/preparation of the relevant authorities in the field of prevention of marine pollution from ships, preparedness for and response to accidental marine pollution ;
- A keen interest to be expressed and active participation to be sought after within the country on activities carried out at the regional level, in the Adriatic and in the Mediterranean Sea as a whole. There was a need for the country to be more active and proactive in this field and to clearly demonstrate and provide proof to important regional/international partners that there was the will at the national level to achieve the overall objectives and targets set within a reasonable timeframe;

- Start implementing the existing legal mechanisms and policies at national level.

36. The round table debate on future strategy /action list of priority issues, which followed the completion of presentations on 26 November 2003, was chaired by Mr. Xhaxhiu and Admiral Patrino. The first part of the round table debate was chaired by Mr. Baraj and Admiral Patrino respectively. A considerable number of participants representing various authorities took active part in the discussion as well as the REMPEC representatives and the representative of the IOPC Fund.

37. A number of issues related to difficulties encountered in establishing co-operation among the various national authorities involved in the implementation of existing legal mechanisms, were also raised, thereby emphasizing a lack of co-ordination among competent authorities.

38. At this point of the discussion, Admiral Patrino indicated that in the context of the preparation of a draft national contingency plan, for preparedness and response to accidental marine pollution by oil, it was of paramount importance to make a provision for setting up a National Committee, empowered to deal with emergencies, and tasked with maintaining the overall co-ordination, facilitating co-operation and representing a strong link, keeping together all competent national authorities involved (Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Transport, port authorities, Harbour Masters and Navy Fleet Command). This arrangement would further aim at educating and training emergency response personnel and at preparing and implementing an approved contingency plan with the view to eventually set up national capabilities to respond to accidental marine pollution in a coordinated and efficient way in Albania.

39. R. Admiral Patrino also stressed that if environmental protection was to remain a priority field of activity, in the general context of economic development (i.e. tourist and fishing industries), the aim should be to seek and attain sustainability and consistency between environmental protection and economic development. The principle of sustainability should always be applied in all activities envisaged to be carried out or implemented in this regard.

40. The Chief of Staff of Naval Forces of the Albanian Navy, Captain Xhaferraj, informed the participants that since April 2002 the Albanian Navy has been assigned with Coast Guard duties, although this function is not yet fully operational. He also mentioned that according to a bilateral agreement with his Italian counterparts, a Project was going to be materialized with the Italian financial support, starting from 2004, in the frame of which delivery of two vessels fully equipped to deal with marine pollution emergencies was envisaged to take place by 2005.

41. Mr. Maloku, from the Ministry of Transport of Albania, informed the participants that a set of legal instruments, needed in order to ratify a number of important international Conventions i.e. SOLAS 1974/1978, was under preparation in consultation with the other Ministries involved. He also mentioned that a new Legal Act on the Role and Responsibilities of the General Harbour Master and Harbour Masters Offices was also under preparation with the aim to be adopted by the Albanian Parliament next year.

42. A number of issues related to the need for practical exercises, training of response personnel as well as effecting international assistance in cases of emergencies were also discussed and clarified. It was emphasized that table-top oil spill exercises and real oil spill response exercises with mobilization of the necessary response personnel and anti-pollution means and equipment, basically represent the conclusion/outcome of a lengthy process, in the framework of e.g. a Life Third Countries Project of a certain duration.

43. In addition, these issues along with some purely technical questions raised by the participants, should serve as a basis for planning and carrying out certain training activities within the country, aimed at *inter alia* training of on-scene commanders, responsible for

conducting and co-ordinating marine pollution response operations at sea, as well as at training of operators and users of oil pollution response equipment.

44. In conclusion, after a lengthy and lively round table discussion, the following issues were identified as a priority in order to develop a future strategy/action list for Albania:

- Setting up the National Committee as described above;
- To consider and examine in close collaboration with REMPEC whether another mission to Albania, by an external consultant under agreed Terms of Reference is needed next year, taking account of the proposals and recommendations related to assessment of the current situation with regard to the establishment of Albanian Maritime Administration reached in the framework of IMO mission in the country in May 2003, and in light of the outcome of the recent evaluation of the Port Reception Facilities in Albania by the Consultant appointed by REMPEC .

45. As a follow up, an Action Plan could be agreed upon to be implemented during 2004 as well as in the years to come. This should be focusing, inter *alia*, on identifying low-risk tasks to be possibly presented in a future LIFE Project proposal with a reasonable budget and of a maximum duration of 2 years, and with assured follow up at the national level, aimed at eventually developing the national capacities for responding to accidental marine pollution. At the end of this lengthy process, it would be possible to test the efficiency of the national system to be developed, in the framework of the said Life Third Countries project, through a real scale oil spill exercises.

46. On behalf of the host country Mr Shkelqim Xhaxhiu thanked all participants and in particular REMPEC representatives and the representative of the IOPC Fund for their valuable contribution and support, which were instrumental to the success of the national Seminar. He also thanked REMPEC for its constant support in developing the Albanian national system for preparedness and response.

47. R. Admiral Patrino thanked all those present for their active and effective contribution to the Seminar and emphasized that the Centre intends to continue supporting initiatives at the national level with a view to assisting the competent national authorities, in eventually setting up a national preparedness and response system. He also presented participants with numbered Certificates, which had been prepared by REMPEC. A copy of the specimen of the Certificate is given in **ANNEX VII**.

48. Mr Xhaxhiu declared the Seminar closed on **26 November 2003** at **14.30**.

ANNEX I

List of Participants

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ANNEX II

Programme of the Seminar

NATIONAL SEMINAR ON PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE TO ACCIDENTAL MARINE POLLUTION (FOR GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATORS AND SENIOR MANAGERS)

Durres, Albania, 24-26 November 2003

FINAL PROGRAMME

DAY 1

MORNING SESSION

08.30 - 09.00	Registration of participants	
09.00 - 09.30	Opening ceremony Introduction to the Seminar - Presentation of organizers and participants - Objectives of the Seminar - Programme of the Seminar	Albanian authorities/ REMPEC
09.30 - 10.15	Legal framework for co-operation in the Mediterranean - Barcelona Convention - Emergency Protocol - REMPEC	R. Adm. R. Patruno
10.15 - 11.15	Introduction to marine pollution - Sources - Transport related pollution - Accidental/operational: oil spills - Weathering of oil - Movement of spilled oil - Environmental impact	E. Sampatakakis
11.15 - 11.45	<i>Coffee break</i>	
11.45 - 12.30	International Conventions for prevention of pollution from ships and for preparedness and response to accidental marine pollution	E. Sampatakakis D. Domovic
12.30 - 13.15	Introduction to oil spill response - Assessment of the situation - Response options - Response strategy	D. Domovic
13.15 - 14.45	<i>Lunch Break</i>	

AFTERNOON SESSION

14.45 - 15.30	General notions on national organization - Importance of having a nat. organization - Setting up a national system - Political decision - Phases of setting up a national system - Contingency planning	D. Domovic
15.30 - 15.45	<i>Coffee break</i>	
15.45 - 17.00	Round Table discussion	REMPEC participants

DAY 2**MORNING SESSION**

09.00 - 09.30	Response to spills at sea <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Containment- Recovery- Dispersants- Other options- Requirements/logistics	D. Domovic
09.30 – 10.00	Response to spills on shore <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Removal of oil- Other methods- Disposal of polluted material- Requirements/logistics	E. Sampatakakis
10.00 – 10.45	VIDEO: Sea Empress incident	
10.45 - 11.15	<i>Coffee break</i>	
11.15 - 12.00	Organization of spill response <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Problems encountered- Logistic requirements- Communications/reporting- Other issues	D. Domovic
12.00- 12.45	Financial consequences of oil spills and compensation for oil pollution damage <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Termination of response operations<ul style="list-style-type: none">- How clean is clean?- The concept of reasonableness- Pollution related damages- Response related costs	J. Nichols (IOPC Funds)
12.45 – 14.00	<i>Lunch Break</i>	

AFTERNOON SESSION

14.00-14.45	Overview of the international compensation regime <ul style="list-style-type: none">- 1992 Civil Liability Convention- 1992 Fund Convention- 2003 Protocol to FUND 92	J. Nichols (IOPC Funds)
14.45 – 15.15	<i>Coffee break</i>	
15.15 – 16.00	Claims for compensation for oil pollution damage and cost recovery/Preparation and presentation of claims <ul style="list-style-type: none">- IOPC Fund's claims policy- Preventive measures- Property damage- Economic losses- Environmental damage- Claims admissibility criteria- Assessment of claims	J. Nichols (IOPC Funds)
16.00 - 17.00	Round Table discussion	Participants REMPEC J. Nichols (IOPC Funds)

DAY 3

09.00 – 09.45	Current situation in Albania regarding preparedness and response to accidental marine pollution / Roles and activities of competent national authorities	Albanian authorities
09.45 - 10.30	Discussion: status of Contingency Planning and Oil Spill Response Capabilities in Albania <ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ at national level◆ ports and harbours◆ terminals and the oil industry	Participants REMPEC J. Nichols (IOPC Funds)
10.30 - 11.00	<i>Coffee Break</i>	
11.00 - 12.45	Discussion: Development of an Action List / Future Strategy <ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ national legal framework: present status and future needs◆ Accession of Albania to relevant international treaties (Conventions)◆ Preparation of Operational Plans◆ roles of competent authorities and industries◆ stockpiles of equipment: possible funding mechanisms◆ oil spill response strategy: policy on use of dispersants◆ Training at port/national level◆ Sub-regional agreements (Adriatic-Ionian Initiative)	Participants REMPEC J. Nichols (IOPC Funds)
12.45 -13.15	Presentation of certificates Closure of Seminar	

ANNEX III

List of Presentations

1. Legal framework for co-operation in the Mediterranean (Barcelona Convention, Emergency Protocol, REMPEC), R. Admiral, Roberto Patrino, REMPEC.
2. Introduction to marine pollution (Sources, Transport related pollution, Accidental/operational: oil spills, weathering of oil, movement of spilled oil, environmental impact), Cdr. Elias Sampatakakis, REMPEC.
3. International Conventions for prevention of pollution from ships and for preparedness and response to accidental marine pollution, Mr. Darko Domovic, Cdr. Elias Sampatakakis, REMPEC.
4. Introduction to oil spill response (assessment of the situation, response options, response strategy), Mr. Darko Domovic, REMPEC.
5. General notions on national organization (importance of having a national organization, setting-up a national system, political decision, phases of setting-up a national system, contingency planning), Mr. Darko Domovic, REMPEC.
6. Response to oil spills (containment, recovery, dispersants, other option, requirements/logistics), Mr. Darko Domovic, REMPEC.
7. Response to spill on shore (removal of oil, other methods, disposal of polluted material, requirements/logistics), Cdr. Elias Sampatakakis, REMPEC.
8. Organization of spill response (problems encountered, logistics requirements, communications/reporting, other issues), Mr. Darko Domovic, REMPEC.
9. Financial consequences of oil spills and compensation for oil pollution damage (termination of response operations, How clean is clean? The concept of reasonableness, pollution related damages, response related costs), Mr. Joe Nichols, IOPC Funds.
10. Overview of the international compensation regime (1992 Civil Liability Convention, 1992 Fund Convention, 2003 Protocol to FUND 92), Mr. Joe Nichols, IOPC Funds.

ANNEX IV

Additional ITOPF Technical Information Papers that were distributed to the participants

ITOPF	Technical Information Paper No.1 - Aerial Observation of Oil at Sea, London, 1981.
ITOPF	Technical Information Paper No.2 - Use of Booms in Combating Oil Pollution, London, 1981.
ITOPF	Technical Information Paper No.3 - Aerial Application of Oil Spill Dispersants, London, 1982.
ITOPF	Technical Information Paper No.4 - Use of Oil Spill Dispersants, London, 1982.
ITOPF	Technical Information Paper No.5 - Use of Skimmers in Combating Oil Pollution, London, 1983.
ITOPF	Technical Information Paper No.6 - Recognition of Oil on Shorelines, London, 1983.
ITOPF	Technical Information Paper No.7 - Shoreline Clean-up, London, 1983.
ITOPF	Technical Information Paper No.8 - Disposal of Oil and Debris, London, 1984.
ITOPF	Technical Information Paper No.9 - Contingency Planning for Oil Spills, London, 1985
ITOPF	Technical Information Paper No.10 - Effects of Marine Oil Spills, London, 1985
ITOPF	Technical Information Paper No.11 - Fate of Marine Oil Spills, London, 1986.
ITOPF	Technical Information Paper No.12 - Action: Oil Spill, London, 1986.

ANNEX V

**Introductory Speech presented
by Mr. Shkelqim Xhaxhiu, Director of Maritime Transport,
Ministry of Transport and Telecommunication of Albania**

Honourable Admiral Roberto PATRUNO,
Honourable Mr. Nichols,
Honourable gentlemen of the REMPEC's staff and participants.

On the behalf of the Ministry of the Transport and Telecommunication I have the pleasure to thank you for the organization of this important seminar on "Preparedness and Occidental Marine Pollution" organized in the town of Durres from November 24, 2003 to November 26, 2003.

This Seminar is the continuation of previous seminar organized by REMPEC, which shows the concrete appreciation and support that this Centre has given and is giving to our country. In addition, this Seminar is a preparatory work for the presentation of a "Life 2004", project which will enable the development of a national contingency plan and the future strategy for the preparedness and response to accidental marine pollution.

The Seminar is organized by REMPEC in cooperation with the Ministry of Environment and the Ministry of Transport, of Albania, which shows a real appreciation of the protection of marine environment, from our side in the framework of Governmental programmes to the integration of European standards, and the regular cooperation with the International Maritime Organisation and with REMPEC in particular.

This Seminar having considered the level of our country in this field and the great needs we have for the moment and for the future in the process of European integration is aimed at:

- giving basic knowledge on the accidental marine pollution and response to it;
- informing on the current ways of cooperation in a regional and global context in case of an accidental marine pollution;
- devising the necessary plans for the organisation of the response ;
- stimulating the process of preparing the national preparedness and response system;
- acquainting with the international framework relating to the protection of the marine environment ;
- working out the legal framework for the cooperation in the Mediterranean Sea;
- managing response operations;
- proposals for setting up a national organisational structure for preparedness and response to accidental marine pollution;
- defining the responsibilities and compensation for the damages caused by pollution and oils.
- considering the current situation of preparing contingency and relevant plans and of the capacities to respond in case of marine pollution in Albania;
- working out a contingency plan and a strategy for the future preparedness and response system at national level ;

As for the above I am fully convinced that the participants in this Seminar from the administration structures, ports, HMO-s, (Harbour Masters Offices), fleet command etc. that have direct connection with the protection of the marine environment, will really appreciate the possibility given to them to get basic knowledge and experience in the field of the marine environmental protection during the planned three working sessions.

This necessary knowledge will definitively serve for our daily work and for the future, giving the possibility to REMPEC to contribute towards the needs of our country with a view to assisting us in developing capabilities to respond effectively to accidental marine pollution in Albania.

ANNEX VI

“Evaluation form” of the Seminar prepared by REMPEC

**“Preparedness and Response to Accidental Marine Pollution”
(for Government Administrators and Senior Managers)
Durrës, Albania, 24 -26 November 2003**

COURSE EVALUATION FORM

1. How did you find the course compare with what you expected?

- Better than expected
- More or less what I expected
- Not as good as I expected

2. Did you find the classroom lectures helpful?

- Very helpful
- OK
- Not very good

3. Did you find the practical demonstration interesting?

- Very interesting and informative
- OK
- Boring

4. Did you think the sessions were the right length?

- Too long
- About right
- Not long enough

5. Did you have enough opportunity for questions?

Yes

No

6. Are you glad you came on this course?

Very pleased: I found it very helpful

OK: I learned some new things

No: It was a waste of time

7. Which sessions did you find the least helpful?

8. Which sessions did you find the most helpful?

9. Please write in the space below any other comments you wish to make (in English).

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

CERTIFICATE

No.

This is to certify that

has attended

**NATIONAL SEMINAR
ON PREPAREDNESS FOR AND RESPONSE TO ACCIDENTAL MARINE POLLUTION
FOR GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATORS AND SENIOR MANAGERS**

Durres, Albania, 24 - 26 November 2003

organized within the framework of the

MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN

by the

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

in co-operation with the

**MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT
and the
MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS
REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA**

Rear Admiral Roberto PATRUNO
Director, REMPEC

