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## **GLOBALLAST PARTNERSHIPS PROJECT**

### **National Training Course/ Awareness Raising Seminar On Ships' Ballast Water Management**

**10-11 November 2009, Podgorica (Montenegro)**

## **REPORT**

**NOVEMBER 2009**



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## **INTRODUCTION**

The National Training Course/ Awareness Raising Seminar on Ships' Ballast Water Management was held in Podgorica, Montenegro, from 10 to 11 November 2009 within the framework of GloBallast Partnership Project.

The GloBallast Partnership Project is the Technical Co-operation Project developed jointly by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the United National Development Programme (UNDP) and the International Maritime Organization (IMO) with the following objectives:

- assisting developing countries to reduce the transfer of harmful aquatic organisms and pathogens in ships' ballast water;
- building capacity to address the ballast water issues;
- undertaking legal, policy and institutional reform and
- implementation of the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments, 2004 (BWM Convention) adopted under the aegis of IMO.

GloBallast Partnership Project is structured as a “three-tier” Project including global, regional and national components. REMPEC is the Regional Coordination Organisation for the implementation of the Project in the Mediterranean region. In this context, and based on the recommendations and conclusions of the regional Introductory Training course on Ballast Water Management Issues, held in Alexandria (Egypt) from 14<sup>th</sup>- 17<sup>th</sup> April 2008, REMPEC, in co-operation with the Ministry of Transport, Maritime Affairs and Telecommunication of Montenegro, organized the National Training Course/ Awareness Raising Seminar on Ships' Ballast Water Management in Montenegro.

### **I. AIMS OF THE TRAINING/ SEMINAR**

The main objective of the Course was to provide a common set of knowledge and skills to all participants to enable them to take appropriate action in their various capacities in order to enable the ratification of the BWM Convention by Montenegro and to ensure uniform implementation of its provisions and standards. The event was at the same time the general national training course on BWM issues and the seminar for the participants of future members of National Task Force.

In that context, the main aims of the training/ seminar were the follows:

- to describe the environmental impact of the transfer of aquatic organisms via ships' ballast water;
- to describe and interpret the provisions and standards of the International Convention on the Management of Ship's Ballast Water and Sediments, 2004; as well as the relevant operational guidelines developed by the IMO;
- to introduce and promote global, regional and sub-regional co-operation framework;
- to introduce the role and requirements of national- tier activities within the GloBallast Partnership project;
- to build the necessary national capacity for the establishment of National Ballast Water Task Force and development of national ballast water management activities; and
- to establish a framework for discussion on basic elements of future National Ballast Water Management Strategy and Action Plan for Montenegro, as well as organizational models, and capacity building issues.

### ***1.1***      **Lecturers**

In order to achieve the objectives outlined above, the course was divided into three main blocks:

- 1.) Ballast Water on board ships and invasive species;
- 2.) Requirement for ballast water management;
- 3.) National perspectives.

The lectures were delivered by Mrs. Maja Markovčić Kostelac, Msc, and Mr. Matej David, PhD. These two instructors were selected due to their knowledge and experience in different fields related to ballast water management and taking into the account their participation in the Mediterranean and Adriatic regional and sub-regional co-operation project relevant for the subject. Mrs. Markovčić Kostelac Kostelaca acted also as the representative of REMPEC and a facilitator of the Training course.

### ***1.2***      **Participation**

As the course intended to be an introductory and general training on ballast water issues, the participants were expected to have a different background as well as different knowledge on the topic. One of the scopes of the course was to encourage discussions between

participants coming from different sectors thus having different views on ballast water management issues.

The training was attended by 29 participants from different administrations, scientific institutions, ports and shipping industry, marine environment protection institutions. The participation of high and medium level management of different stakeholders was of particular importance for the achievement of the Training objectives. The list of participants is attached to the Report in **Annex I**.

### ***1.3      Training Programme***

The training was organized in two working days: the first day was devoted to the introduction of subject and the presentation of the global framework, while during the second day the emphasis was given on regional/sub-regional and national framework for ballast water management. During the second day, after the last presentation by the instructor, the presentations of relevant national activities, programmes and proposals for future work were presented by officials of Montenegro Maritime Safety Directorate and the Ministry of Transport, Maritime Affairs and Telecommunication. The full programme of the Training Course is given in the **Annex II** of this report.

The presentations were based on the standard Modules of the GloBallast Training Manual of the Introductory Training Course on Ballast Water Management Issues, (delivered in the Mediterranean region in Egypt, Alexandria, in April 2008). These were delivered to the instructors by REMPEC and modified accordingly by instructors in order to adjust with the specific objectives of this National Training Course.

For the purpose of the Training the following Modules were used:

- Module 1 “Background to Ballast Water Management”
- Module 2 “Ballast Water Management on Ships”
- Module 3 “Standards for Ballast Water Management”
- Module 4 “Operational Aspects on Ship-board Ballast Water Management”
- Module 5 “Ballast Water Management by Port/Coastal State”
- Module 6 “Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement”
- Module 8 “Development of a National Strategic Framework to BWM”
- Module 9 “Technical Assistance & Regional Co-operation”

#### **I.4 Organizational arrangements**

The Ministry of Transport, Transport, Maritime Affairs and Telecommunication acted as the logistical coordination point for the Training Course, and in that capacity had invited participants, arranged training facilities and social events, organized the reproduction of the training materials, and ensured interpretation. REMPEC and IMO have contracted the lecturers and provide them with Training Programme and Standard Training Modules.

The Training Course was held in English and interpretation in Montenegrin was provided.

## **II ORGANIZATION OF THE TRAINING**

### **Day One**

#### **II.1 Opening of the Training**

The National Training Course/ Awareness Raising Seminar was opened on Tuesday, 10 November 2009 at 9:00 a.m. at the Hotel Podgorica, Podgorica, Montenegro.

The participants were addressed by Mr. Srdjan Vukčević, Deputy Minister of Transport, Maritime Affairs and Telecommunication, who underlined the importance of marine environment protection for Montenegro and in that context highlighted the relevance of this Course. He also informed the forum on the on-going activities of the Montenegro Maritime Authorities and present plans for the next period.

The participants were welcomed by Mrs. Maja Markovčić Kostelac, on the behalf on IMO GloBallast and REMPEC who explained the purpose of the Course and its objectives. She thanked the Montenegro Ministry for organizing such Training, and introduced the lecturers and the programme.

#### **II.2 Ballast Water on Board Ships and Invasive Species**

##### **II.2.1. IMO-BBC documentary**

Prior to the beginning of the presentations, the IMO-BBC documentary “Invaders from the Sea” was projected. The aim was to provide the trainees with a general overview on the transfer of harmful organisms in ships' ballast water, on the effects of this phenomenon on our coasts as well as on the measures taken by the global community to fight against these alien species.



### ***II.2.2. International Convention for Ballast Water Management***

The first presentation of the Training Course was focused on the legal aspects of ballast water management and the description of the requirements of the International Convention for Control and Management of ships' ballast water and sediments, 2004. The presentation was delivered by Mrs. Maja Markovčić Kostelac.

In the introductory part of the presentation, it was explained why ships need to use ballast water and what is the role of ballast water management in relation to ships' safety and stability. Then, the role of ballast water as the vector for transfer of aquatic organisms and pathogens were explained. Devastating consequences of the introduction of organisms into a marine environment were underlined. The problem has been witnessed in different parts of the world, so today we can say we are facing a growing global environmental challenge. The problem is global and shipping is a global industry, thus the response to the problem was naturally searched within the global forum- the International Maritime Organisation. The general role of the IMO was introduced.

History of the development of the international legally binding instrument was presented, as well as the main objectives of the IMO Ballast Water Management Convention. In the core part of the presentation, the Articles of the BWM Convention and the Standards of the BWM Regulations were elaborated in details. The requirement for entering into the force of the instrument and the present status of the Convention were presented. Particular emphasis was given to the Ballast Water Management Standards; the reasons behind phasing in/out clauses were explained, as well as the procedures for technology approval. Mrs. Markovčić Kostelac also underlined the importance of Part C of the BWM Regulation for semi-enclosed and closed sea areas. The presentation also included the role of the State party to the convention in its capacity as a flag, port and coastal state.

### ***II.3 Requirements for Ballast Water Management***

The second block of presentation addressed the operational aspects of the ballast water management. The presentations were delivered by Mr. Matej David, who introduced Management Option, Standards and Operational Requirements of Ballast Water Management onboard Ships, The role of the port/coastal State authorities in Ballast Water Management, and Compliance and enforcement aspects.

#### **II.4 GEF-UNDP-IMO GloBallast Programme - Overview**

The presentation of GEF-UNDP-IMO Globallast Programme was delivered by Mrs. Maja Markovčić Kostelac. In the introductory part of the presentation the legal background for the Technical Cooperation Programme was given. The reasons behind and the objectives of this particular TCP were explained. The achievements of the Phase 1 of the Programme were also presented. The particular emphasis of the presentation was given to the on-going Second Phase of the Programme, which is going to be exercised from the year 2007- 2012.

Its expected outcome, geographical coverage as well as its three- tier structure were introduced. The project structure and financing arrangement were also presented. Mrs. Markovčić Kostelac than gave an overview of the activities that were exercised within the framework of the Programme so far, and presented the plan of activities expected to be held in the forthcoming period both on global and on regional level. She also introduces the establishment of the Globallast Industry Forum, its objectives and tasks. The role of leading and other partner countries participating in the Programme were also elaborated. The participants and the competent Montenegro institutions were invited to actively participate in the Programme.

#### **Day Two**

#### **II.5 Regional and Sub-Regional Cooperation in the Mediterranean and in the Adriatic**

Mrs. Markovčić Kostelac explained the importance of regional cooperation particularly in relation to environmental issues and particularly for the coastal states on the environmentally vulnerable semi-enclosed and closed sea areas. Given that similar IAS problems are repeatedly faced in different parts of the world, sharing of information and expertise internationally on the ecology, impacts and management of such IAS is one priority. Invasive alien species are also, by definition, a trans-boundary issue. Accordingly, it must be recognised that individual countries cannot effectively address this issue on their own. It was stressed that when a country is developing a National Strategy for BWM, it becomes essential to take into account the regional situation.

It was underlined that the process of designing and implementing any regional arrangement that involves cooperation requires three inter-related steps:

- 1- The approach (participation, partnerships, sharing of experience, etc.)
- 2- The mechanism (Regional Task Force)
- 3- The tools (Strategic Regional Action Plan – SAP)

The lecturer then brought to the attention of the participants the framework for the cooperation of Mediterranean countries, by presenting the wider context of the Barcelona Convention, its structure, organization and fields of activities.

The cooperation on the BWM issues in the Mediterranean region and under the framework of the GloBallast Programme was presented, highlighting the role of REMPEC as facilitator in the execution of the project. After recalling the institutional structures existing in the Mediterranean Sea that are of interest to ballast water management, Mrs. Markovčić Kostelac mentioned the steps which have already been taken in the region to face the problem of IAS and informed the participants that four Mediterranean countries, namely Egypt, France, Spain and Syria, have ratified the BWM Convention.

In the Mediterranean region, the Regional Task Force for BWM has been established, and the work on the development of the Regional BWM Strategy has been initiated during the first meeting of RTF held in Dubrovnik in September 2008. It is expected that the Mediterranean Strategy on Ballast Water Management will be adopted by the Contracting Parties of the Barcelona Convention.

In the final part of the presentation the cooperation of the Adriatic States regarding the Ballast Water Management issues were presented. It was recalled that within the Commission for the protection of the Adriatic Sea the Sub-commission for Ballast Water Management was established, and its main activities were presented accordingly. It was also highlighted that the Joint Expert Group for the preparation of the proposal for the designation of the Adriatic States as the PSSA, with the participation of all Adriatic coastal states is working towards the finalization of the joint proposal to be submitted to the IMO for the approval. The Associated Protective Measures within the PSSA proposal deals with the Ballast Water Management.

## **II.6 Development of National Legal, Policy and Institutional Frameworks**

The last lecture was dedicated to the main components of national framework for ballast water management. At the beginning of the presentation the main components of a National Framework (policy, legislation, institutional structures, and strategy / action plan) and their specific purpose were highlighted. Mrs. Markovčić Kostelac described in detail the various steps in the development of a NSF as follows:

- gather information on all related existing measures, policies, legislation/regulations;
- develop, on the basis of this information, policy, strategy and action plan;
- draft, enact & implement legislation and undertake institutional reform;
- implement strategy and action plan;
- monitor and evaluate the system.

Particular emphasis was given to the role and responsibilities of institutional structures, such as the Task Force, which should provide advice on and contribute to the development of a National Strategy, and the Lead Agency called to oversee the development and the implementation of the national strategy on ballast water management.

In order to facilitate countries in the decision making process of who should be the Lead Agency, the instructor outlined the main responsibilities of the Agency. In particular she mentioned that the constitutional structure of the country, as well as the already existing agencies and the capacities and resources of these agencies, represent important criteria which may affect the final choice.

The advantages of creating a Task Force were also explained giving some examples of specific agencies, national authorities and other stakeholders which should be part of it. When providing recommendations regarding policy, strategy, operational arrangements and legislation, it must be kept in mind that the Task Force should always ensure consistency of recommendations with international obligations and requirements.

Mrs. Markovčić Kostelac presented the key elements to be included into the National Strategy and mentioned the operational arrangements of the action plan required to implement and enforce the National Strategy, drawing the attention of the audience on the fact that each proposed action was related to a topic discussed during this Training.

In the last part of the presentation Mrs. Markovčić Kostelac and Mr. David explained the experience of Croatia and Slovenia in exercising these activities.

Before concluding the presentation it was pointed out that all participants were now provided with the tools to assist them in the process of designing their national policy/strategy which, eventually, will be part of the legislation they are going to enact to implement the BWM Convention.

## **II.7 National Strategies / Action Plan on Ballast Water Management**

The last part of the Training Course/ Awareness Raising Seminar was dedicated to the discussion on the activities of Montenegro towards the development of adequate national framework for Ballast Water Management in Montenegro.

In order to facilitate the discussion, the officials of competent authorities of Montenegro delivered the presentations on existing organisational structure, legislation development and other related activities in Montenegro. Mrs. Jasmina Isić, the Director of Maritime Safety Directorate presented the organisation, competence and main activities of the Maritime Safety Directorate. In her intervention Mrs. Isić presented the draft of new Legislation on marine environment protection from ships' source pollution which is intended to incorporate the ballast water management issues.

Ms. Jelena Knežević, principal advisor for external relations, delivers the presentation on the activities of the Ministry of Special Planning and Environment Protection.

Mr. Goran Jurišić, principal maritime safety inspector, introduced the draft elements for the BWM Strategy and SAP for Montenegro. This document is planned to be circulated to the participants, for further deliberation. It is expected that the participants will form the NTF and continue the activities within this forum.

After the presentation the active discussion were held clearly shows the importance of the subject for stakeholders and their readiness to deals with this important environmental issue on the comprehensive and constructive way, and to build up the appropriate national framework.

## **III. CONCLUSIONS AND CLOSING OF THE SEMINAR**

It was concluded that the Training provides a solid tool for further development of national framework for ballast water management in Montenegro. The participation of different stakeholders would enable the establishment of NTF in the short period time. The importance of the active participation of Montenegro in different regional cooperation projects was underlined.

The representatives of the Ministry of Transport, Maritime Affairs and Telecommunication of Montenegro thanked GloBallast Partnerships and REMPEC for the organisation of this event, and the lecturers for their valuable contribution to the success of the Training.

Mrs. Markovčić Kostelac thanked the Montenegro Ministry of Transport, Maritime Affairs and Telecommunication for the excellent organisation and warm hospitality, and to the participants for their support, active participation and contribution to this joint work. She expressed the view that the enthusiasm shown during the seminar provides a guarantee that Montenegro would have a proactive attitude towards the implementation of the requirements of BWM Convention.

## ANNEX I

### LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

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## ANNEX II



## PROGRAMME

### NATIONAL TRAINING COURSE / AWARENESS RAISING SEMINAR ON SHIPS' BALLAST WATER MANAGEMENT

Podgorica, Montenegro

10-11 November 2009

Organised by the Ministry of Transport, Maritime Affairs  
and Telecommunications of Montenegro

With the support of the GloBallast Partnerships



## PROGRAMME

<b>Day 1 – Tuesday 10 November 2009</b>	
08.45 – 09.00	<i>Registration</i>
09.00 – 09.30	Welcome remarks, introduction to the course and lecturers
<b>Ballast water on board ships and invasive species</b>	
9.30 – 10.30	Overview of the ships' ballast water problem and invasive species: IMO-BBC Video "Invaders from the Sea"
<i>10.30 – 11.00</i>	<b><i>Coffee break</i></b>
11.00 – 11.45	The International Convention for Ballast Water Management
<b>Requirements for ballast water management</b>	
11.45 – 12.30	Part 1 – Ballast Water Management onboard Ships: Management Option, Standards and Operational requirements
<i>12.30 – 14.00</i>	<b><i>Lunch Break</i></b>
14.00 – 14.45	Part 1 (contd.) – Ballast Water Management onboard Ships: Management Option, Standards and Operational requirements
14.45 – 15.30	Part 2 – The role of the port / coastal State authorities in Ballast Water Management
14.45 – 15.30	Part 3 – Compliance and enforcement aspects
<i>16.30 – 17.00</i>	<b><i>Coffee break</i></b>
17.00 – 17.30	GEF-UNDP-IMO GloBallast Programme – Overview

<b>Day 2 – Wednesday, 11 November 2009</b>	
<b>National perspectives</b>	
09.00 – 09.45	Regional and sub-regional cooperation in the Mediterranean and in the Adriatic
09.45 – 10.30	Development of National legal, policy and institutional frameworks
10.30 – 11.00	<b><i>Coffee break</i></b>
11.00 – 11.45	Status in the country and national initiatives (Presentation by National Representative)
11.45 – 12.30	National strategies / Action Plan on BWM – Development of a National Roadmap (group discussion)
12.30 – 14.00	<b><i>Lunch break</i></b>
14.00 – 15.00	National strategies / Action Plan on BWM – Formation of a National Task Force (group discussion)
15.00 – 15.30	<b>Conclusions and closing of the Seminar</b>