

## **National Training Course on Accidental Marine Pollution Preparedness and Response for Decision Makers**

### **REPORT**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

A national training course on accidental marine pollution preparedness and response for decision makers was held at Beirut in the Republic of Lebanon between 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> December 2001. The training course was delivered by Briggs Egypt Marine & Environmental Services Ltd. under the supervision of REMPEC and in co-operation with the Ministry of Environment, Lebanon.

The national training course was based on the IMO Level 3 model-training course, with an extended desktop exercise and videos shown in the absence of being able to carry out practical exercises. It was aimed at decision makers who would be called upon to act as Incident Controllers in the event of marine oil spills. The Ministry of Environment, other relevant Ministries, national organisations and services, the as well as the private sector, all of which are envisaged to have responsibilities for preparedness and response under the future Lebanese national contingency plan, nominated delegates.

The IMO recommends two days for completing the level 3 course; this was extended by one day so that a desktop exercise could be included on the last day.

The national training course was organised by REMPEC in accordance with Project ME/XM/6030-00-11 financed by the Mediterranean Trust Fund, with a view to increasing the level of preparedness for dealing with accidental marine pollution in Lebanon. It was organised in conformity with the work plan of REMPEC activities for the 2000-2001 period, as requested by the Lebanese delegation during the meeting of REMPEC Focal Points held in Malta, 25<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> October 2000 (REMPEC/WG/18/14, paragraph 114).

#### **ORGANISATION OF THE TRAINING COURSE**

The Ministry of Environment, as the competent Lebanese national authority, was responsible for the selection and invitation of participants. The Lebanese administration's responsibilities also included making the necessary arrangements for the smooth running of the training course, including *inter alia* the provision of a conference room, identification of the simultaneous translation services and the necessary audio-visual equipment. Dr. Samih Wehbe, Expert in the Ministry of the Environment, and the National Focal Point of REMPEC efficiently executed the arrangements.

The training course was held in the conference room of the Gefinor Rotana Hotel, Beirut. The venue proved to be excellent being central with good accommodation, support facilities, plenty of tea/coffee and helpful staff.

REMPEC acted as the official point of contact with the national authorities and liaised with them on the dates and venue of the training course and the identification of the appropriate participants. REMPEC also participated in the preparation of the training course programme and provided one lecturer.

## **ROLES OF EXTERNAL ORGANISING PARTIES**

REMPEC (The Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea).

REMPEC organised the Course, in close co-operation with the competent Lebanese national authorities and was responsible in particular for:

- Liaison with the competent Lebanese national authorities regarding:
  - the dates and venue of the Training Course;
  - the identification of trainees;
  - logistics for the smooth running of the Course;
  - issue of entry visas and facilitating immigration formalities;
  - All official contacts between REMPEC and the national authorities;
- Participating in the overall design of the Course programme and taking the final decision regarding the approval of the programme.
- Ensuring the participation in the Course of REMPEC's Technical Expert as a lecturer on appropriate topics defined in consultation with Briggs Egypt.
- Making arrangements and covering the cost of ~~for~~ simultaneous interpretation from English into Arabic.
- Ensuring, in consultation with Briggs Egypt, the availability of all teaching aids required for the smooth running of the Course. (PowerPoint projector, video player and screen, etc.)
- Preparing the Course Certificate.

## BRIGGS EGYPT .

Briggs Egypt, acting under the supervision of REMPEC, provided the following services related to the preparation and delivery of the Course:

- Finalised the programme and the contents of the Course, in close co-operation with and subject to the final approval of REMPEC.
- Provided 2 (two) qualified instructors who presented six (6) lectures at the Course.
- Made necessary travel arrangements purchased relevant air tickets and covered the terminal expenses in accordance with the IMO rules, for their instructors on the Course.
- Covered the costs of daily subsistence allowance, in accordance with the UN rates, for their own instructors.
- Prepared and conducted the tabletop exercise that was held on the last day of the Course.
- Provided a copy of the Course Manual for each trainee, including three copies for REMPEC files (Total 30 copies).
- Prepared the Final Report on the Course (10 copies) and a Financial Report. The Financial Report covered all the expenses incurred by Briggs Egypt and was accompanied by receipts and vouchers where appropriate.
- Provided a group photo of the participants in the Course.

The services provided by Briggs Egypt were subject of the contract between REMPEC and Briggs Egypt. All costs related to this contract were made available by the Mediterranean Trust Fund (MTF) under the Project ME/XM/6030-00-11.

The training course was conducted in both English and Arabic with simultaneous interpretation being provided from English into Arabic where necessary.

A total of twenty four (24) participants attended the national training course. Organisations which sent representatives included Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Transport, Ministry of Energy and Water Lebanese Navy, Civil Defence Directorate, Customs Directorate, Interior Security Force (FSI), National Council for Scientific Research (CNRS), Institute of Oceanography (Ministry of Agriculture), Arab Beirut University, Notre Dame University, International Maritime Chamber, Navy Group Ltd. The list of participants is given in Annex 1.

## **PROCEEDINGS OF THE TRAINING COURSE**

The Course was officially inaugurated on 3 December 2001 by H.E. Dr. Michel MOUSSA, the Minister of Environment of the Republic of Lebanon. Dr. Samih WEHBE, official Focal Point of REMPEC for Lebanon welcomed the participants on behalf of the Ministry of Environment, and Mr. Darko DOMOVIC, Technical Expert, REMPEC on behalf of the Centre. Reporters of a number of Lebanese TV and radio stations and other sections of national press attended the Opening Ceremony.

The overall objective of the course was to provide the participants with the knowledge and information required for preparing and responding effectively to accidental marine pollution incidents in Lebanon. The course content adhered to the Incident Controllers (Decision Makers) programme as laid down by the IMO (IMO Level 3). The programme included such topics as contingency planning, sources of oil pollution, strategies of oil spill response, objectives of spill response operations international mechanisms for liability and compensation, management of response operations, termination of response operations and the media. Course certificates reflected this (Annex 5). In order to achieve their objectives, Briggs Egypt and REMPEC prepared a training course programme, which included 10 lectures, all of which were illustrated by various visual aids (videos, overheads, power-point). The practical elements of the course included a tabletop exercise dealing with an imaginary oil spill scenario. A copy of the course programme is given in Annex 2. The course programme ran from 0900 to 1400 with coffee breaks, so as to provide flexibility for those observing Ramadan. The full content of the course was covered in the three-day period, though end of day lectures were curtailed due to time limitation.

Three lecturers (Annex 3) gave the lectures. Delegates were given course manuals that contained copies of the power-point slides used in the lecturers' presentations plus amplifying notes. A list of the published documents distributed to the participants is given in Annex 4.

The final day of the course was devoted to a desktop exercise, followed by Course critique and presentation of Certificates.

Dr Samih Wehbe, representing the Minister of Environment, closed the training course, assisted by Mr Darko Domovic (REMPEC) and Briggs Egypt Lecturers. Participants were presented with numbered Certificates of attendance and a group photograph. (Certificate numbers awarded to the participants are included in Annex 1). A copy of the certificate is given in Annex 5.

## **CONCLUSIONS**

The training course was aimed at officials within the Lebanese Ministries of the Environment, Transport and Defence and other relevant national administrations, as well as at private sector personnel of the country who would be expected to respond to marine pollution events in Lebanon at decision making level. The participants were of the managerial level expected.

The participants that attend at the invitation of the Ministry of the Environment were clearly appropriate. This is confirmed by the fact that the course evaluation questionnaire (Analysis Annex 6) showed that all participants considered that the course objectives were met and the new skills could be used back at their workplace.

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

## ANNEX I

## LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Certificate No.	Name	Organization	
1.	1964	<b>Dr. Shadi MHANNA</b>	Institute of Oceanography (Ministry of Agriculture)
2.	1965	<b>Dr. Samih WEHBE</b>	Ministry of Environment
3.	1966	<b>Capt. Mohammed SALEH</b>	Interior Security Force (FSI)
4.	1967	<b>Mr. Amine CHERFAN</b>	Civil Defence Directorate
5.	1968	<b>Col. Michel AL HASHEM</b>	Lebanese Navy
6.	1969	<b>Cdt. Ayman IBRAHIM</b>	Customs Directorate
7.	1970	<b>Capt. Elias G. EID</b>	Navy Group Ltd.
8.	1971	<b>Dr. Hanna BOU-HABIB</b>	Ministry of Environment
9.	1972	<b>Eng. Walid DAMAJ</b>	International Maritime Chamber
10.	1973	<b>Dr. Mamun NUWAYHID</b>	National Council for Scientific Research (CNRS)
11.	1974	<b>Mr. Georges EL SANEH</b>	Ministry of Energy and Water
12.	1975	<b>Dr. Walid C. ASSAF</b>	Notre Dame University
13.	1976	<b>Dr. Nijad KABBARA</b>	National Council for v Scientific Research (CNRS)
14.	1977	<b>Mr. George ZAKHER</b>	Navy Group Ltd.
15.	1978	<b>Eng. Walid MATTA</b>	REP
16.	1979	<b>Maj. Nazih JBAILY</b>	Lebanese Navy
17.	1980	<b>Eng. Ahmad HAYTHAM ELWALI</b>	Ministry of Transport
18.	1981	<b>Mr. Alexandre ANANOW</b>	Navy Group Ltd.
19.	1982	<b>Dr. Ali HAMMOUD</b>	Arab Beirut University
20.	1983	<b>Eng. Mohammed NAHLE</b>	Ministry of Transport
21.	1984	<b>Mr. George ABU MOUSSA</b>	Civil Defence Directorate
22.	1985	<b>Capt. Al-ALI</b>	Customs Directorate
23.	1986	<b>Mr. Joseph MRAD</b>	Navy Group Ltd.
24.	1987	<b>Mr. Michel Jean KATTAH</b>	Navy Group Ltd.

**ANNEX II**

**NATIONAL TRAINING COURSE  
FOR DECISION MAKERS  
ON PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE TO ACCIDENTAL MARINE POLLUTION**

**Beirut, Lebanon, 3 - 5 December 2001**

**Programme**

<b>DAY 1</b>	<b>MONDAY, 3 DECEMBER 2001</b>	
09.00 - 09.30	Registration of participants	
09.30 - 10.00	Opening ceremony and inauguration of the Course	National authorities REMPEC
10.00 - 10.30	<i>Coffee break</i>	
10.30 - 11.15	The sources of oil pollution, behaviour fate and effects of spilled oil	D Domovic, REMPEC
11.15 - 12.00	Contingency planning for oil spills	D. Domovic, REMPEC
12.00 - 12.30	<i>Coffee break</i>	
12.30 – 13.15	Strategies of oil spill response	S.Guy, Briggs Egypt
13.15 – 14.00	Objectives of spill response operations	C. James Briggs Egypt

**DAY 2****TUESDAY, 4 DECEMBER 2001**

09.00 – 09.45	Global and regional systems for accidental marine pollution preparedness, response and co-operation – an example of the Mediterranean region	D. Domovic REMPEC
09.45 – 10.30	International mechanisms for liability and compensation for pollution damage	C.James Briggs Egypt
10.30 - 11.00	<i>Coffee break</i>	
11.00 - 11.45	Management of response operations - roles and responsibilities	S.Guy Briggs Egypt
11.45 - 12.15	Communications and reporting	D. Domovic REMPEC
12.15 – 12.45	<i>Coffee break</i>	
12.45 – 13.15	Dealing with the media	C.James Briggs Egypt
13.00 – 13.45	Termination of response operations	C.James Briggs Egypt



**DAY 3****WEDNESDAY, 5 DECEMBER 2001**

09.00 – 09.30	Introduction to the tabletop exercise	Briggs Egypt REMPEC
09.30 - 10.30	Table top exercise	Participants
10.30 - 11.00	<i>Coffee break</i>	
11.00 - 12.30	Table top exercise	Participants
12.30 – 13.00	<i>Coffee break</i>	
13.00 – 13.30	Presentation of the results by groups	Participants
13.30 – 13.45	Discussions of the results	Participants Briggs Egypt REMPEC
13.45 - 14.00	Closure of the Training Course and presentation of Certificates	National Authorities REMPEC

**REMPEC**      **IMO/UNEP Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre  
for the Mediterranean Sea, Manoel Island, Malta**

**BMES**            **Briggs Egypt Marine & Environmental Services Ltd., Cairo, Egypt**

**ANNEX III**

LIST OF LECTURERS

Mr Darko Domovic  
Technical Expert

Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea  
(REMPEC)  
Manoel Island  
Gzira GZR 03  
Malta

Captain Colin James  
General Manager

Mr Stephen Guy  
Training Co-ordinator

Briggs Egypt Marine & Environmental Services Ltd  
2m Sq 1166  
El-Shaheed Sayyed Zacharia Str.  
Behind Sheraton Heliopolis  
Cairo  
Egypt

## **ANNEX IV**

### List of Documents

#### Contents of Delegates Course Manuals

- Sources of Marine Oil Pollution
- Contingency Planning
- Oil Spill Strategies
- Oil Spill Response
- Shoreline Protection and Clean-up
- Global and Regional systems for Response and co-operation
- International mechanisms for liability and compensation
- Spill Management
- Communications and Reporting
- Dealing with the Media
- Termination – How clean is clean

**ANNEX V**

Copy of Course Certificate

**ANNEX VI****ANALYSIS OF COURSE EVALUATION QUESTIONNAIRE**

Based upon the 22 completed questionnaires that were returned.

1. Were the course objectives clearly stated at the outset of the course?  
96%.....Yes

2. In your opinion were these objectives met?  
100%..... Yes

3. COURSE CONTENT

Technical Detail. Too Broad .13% About Right.. 83% Too Narrow 4%

Volume of information Too Much. 18% About Right. 68% Too Little 14%

Course Duration Too Long. 4% About Right. 60% Too Short 36%

4. COURSE MATERIAL/PRESENTATION

Instructor/Presentation 0% Satisfactory. 27% Good. 73% Excellent

Delegate Participation 18% Satisfactory 41% Good 41% Excellent

Visual Aids 18% Satisfactory 31% Good 51% Excellent

Supporting Notes 13% Satisfactory 45% Good 44% Excellent

Exercises/Examples 13% Satisfactory 45% Good 44% Excellent

Overall Assessment 0% Satisfactory 49% Good 51% Excellent

5. OVERALL ASSESSMENT

What was the most relevant part of the course?

36% Theoretical and videos. 31% Desktop exercise. 33% Both

Were there any parts of the course totally irrelevant?

100% None

Have you a clear idea on how you will use the new skills/knowledge back in your workplace?

100% Yes

#### 6. COURSE CONTENT WHICH MIGHT BE IMPROVED AND HOW.

40% made comment; they were unanimous that having practical exercises and seeing response equipment in operation could make improvement. Also a request that relevant Government Departments take place in the presentations.

#### 7. OTHER COMMENTS

“Waiting for the next time”

Thank you I look forward to the next course.

Great, Thanks to the organisers, lecturers and participants.