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

EURO-MED PARTNERSHIP

**Port reception facilities for collecting ship-generated
garbage, bilge waters and oily wastes
(MED.B7.4100.97.0415.8)**



EU - UE



Third Meeting of the Steering Committee

Malta, 23 November 2004

REMPEC/MEDA/WG.3/8
23 November 2004

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REPORT OF THE THIRD MEETING OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE
OF THE MEDA PROJECT ON PORT RECEPTION FACILITIES
FOR COLLECTING SHIP-GENERATED GARBAGE,
BILGE WATERS AND OILY WASTES

(MED/B7/4100/97/0415/8)

MALTA, 23 NOVEMBER 2004

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INTRODUCTION

1. The Third Meeting of the Steering Committee of the EC financed MEDA Project MED/B7/4100/97/0415/8 on Port Reception Facilities for Collecting Ship-Generated Garbage, Bilge Water and Oily Wastes (hereinafter referred to as the "Meeting") was convened on 23 November 2004 by the Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC) at the Westin Dragonara Resort in St Julian's, Malta.

2. The representatives of the Mediterranean EU member States (France, Greece, Italy and Spain) as well as the representatives of the European Commission (EC) (Directorate General EuropeAid Co-operation Office, Directorate General Transport and Energy and the EC Representation in Malta) were invited to attend the Meeting as members of the Steering Committee. Representatives from IMO and UNEP/MAP as well as from the beneficiary countries of the MEDA Project were also invited to attend the Meeting as observers.

3. The representatives of Italy and the European Commission attended the Meeting. Five countries participating in the MEDA Project (Algeria, Cyprus, Egypt, Malta and Tunisia,) attended the Meeting as observers. REMPEC was represented in the Meeting by the Programme Officer (Prevention) and the Technical Officer for the Project. IMO, UNEP/MAP and one Mediterranean EU member State (France) informed REMPEC that, due to others commitments, no representative could participate in the Meeting. The complete list of participants is given in **Annex I**.

AGENDA ITEMS 1 AND 2 OPENING AND ORGANIZATION OF THE MEETING.

4. The Meeting was opened at 09.30 hours on Tuesday, 23 November 2004, by Mr. Jonathan Pace, Programme Officer (Prevention), REMPEC.

5. Mr. Pace chaired the Meeting and, on behalf of the Director of REMPEC, welcomed all the participants. He informed the Meeting that the Centre was pleased to note that five beneficiary countries were attending the Meeting as observers. He further informed the Meeting that due to reasons beyond their control, France and Greece could not participate in the Meeting, as they have previously done. Since it was expected that during the Meeting, decisions would be taken by consensus, it was agreed that effective and full participation of all the participants was welcomed.

6. The Chairman of the Meeting informed the participants that the working languages of the Third Steering Committee Meeting were English and French, and that simultaneous interpretation English/French/English was available.

7. The Chairman referred to the timetable of the Meeting presented in document REMPEC/MEDA/WG.3/3 underlining that the Meeting was going to focus on the overall review of the implementation of the activities of the Project. He indicated that under Item 7 of the Agenda (Conclusions and Recommendations for the Regional Seminar – Activity E of the Project), with a view to facilitating the discussion under this Agenda Item, REMPEC will present a draft Resolution entitled "Implementation of the Results of the EC/MEDA Financed Project on Port Reception Facilities in the Mediterranean and of REMPEC's Complementary Activities" (REMPEC/MEDA/WG.3/7).

AGENDA ITEM 3 **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA.**

8. The Meeting adopted the Agenda as proposed in the document REMPEC/MEDA/WG.3/1, as well as the Annotated Provisional Agenda, proposed in the document REMPEC/MEDA/WG.3/2. The Agenda of the Meeting is reproduced in **Annex II** to the present Report.

AGENDA ITEM 4 **REVIEW OF THE OVERALL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE PROJECT (PART 1).**

9. Ms. Khodjet El Khil, Technical Officer for the MEDA Project, introduced the document REMPEC/MEDA/WG.3/4 and outlined the activities of the Project implemented during the first two years of the Project.

10. She indicated that the first two years of the Project were primarily dedicated to the preparation, implementation and finalization of the first two activities of the Project, related to the assessment of the situation and needs regarding port reception facilities for ship-generated solid and liquid wastes (Activity A) and ballast water from tankers (Activity C). This included the selection of a suitable consultant to carry out both activities, a debriefing meeting with the consultant prior to the missions in the countries involved, monitoring of the work carried out by the consultant, and coordination with both the countries and the consultant during the missions. Ms Khodjet El Khil also informed the Meeting that the Final Report for activities A and C of the Project was submitted to REMPEC in November 2003 and circulated to the beneficiary countries and to the EU Mediterranean Member States in December 2003.

AGENDA ITEM 5 **REVIEW OF THE OVERALL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE PROJECT (PART 2).**

11. Mr. Pace, Programme Officer (Prevention), REMPEC, introduced document REMPEC/MEDA/WG.3/5 and described the activities implemented in the final year (2004) of the Project. He explained that during this period, REMPEC focused on the implementation of Activities B (Optimum solutions) and D (Technical Specifications and Standard Designs) as well as on the organization of the Regional Seminar (Activity E), which was scheduled to be held in Malta in the following three days. He informed the Meeting that activities B and D were successfully carried out with the expert advice of the appointed consultants, Tebodin Consultants & Engineers, The Netherlands. The Final study of Activity B was disseminated to the countries in April 2004, while the Final report of Activity D was finalized in November 2004 and was being distributed to the countries. Mr. Pace informed the Meeting that in order to facilitate the dissemination of the results of the Project, all the Reports of the Project's activities were posted on REMPEC's website.

12. The representative of Algeria reminded the present Meeting of the comments made during the Second Steering Committee Meeting, which emphasized the importance of the final realization of the necessary port reception facilities in the Mediterranean region. He further underlined the importance of the implementation of the results of the MEDA Project with a view to enhance the provision of port reception facilities in the region and pointed out that this required both technical assistance and financial resources. He suggested that follow-up work on this issue be undertaken by REMPEC within its future work programmes. The delegation of Egypt associated itself with the comments of Algeria. Both delegations were of the opinion that REMPEC could take the initiative to try and identify possible sources of financing that could be utilised by the countries to fund the setting-up of port reception facilities. Various delegations supported the comments of Algeria and Egypt.

13. The Chairman informed the Meeting that REMPEC would of course be ready to provide any technical assistance that might be requested by the Mediterranean coastal States with regard to the concrete implementation of the results of the Project and the related complementary activities. He also pointed out that follow-up work on port reception facilities could be included in the Centre's future programme of activities which would be adopted by the Meeting of REMPEC Focal Points and by the Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention. He explained that this follow-up work could be of a regional nature or could take the form of assistance to individual requests from the countries.

AGENDA ITEM 6 **BRIEFING ON REMPEC'S COMPLEMENTARY PROJECTS IN THE FIELD OF PORT RECEPTION FACILITIES.**

14. Mr. Pace introduced document REMPEC/MEDA/WG.3/6, which provided information on the complementary activities carried out by REMPEC in the field of port reception facilities, in Mediterranean countries that were not benefiting from the MEDA Project. He explained that activities complementary to Activities A and C (Assessment of the situation and needs) as well as Activity B (Optimum Solutions) of the MEDA Project were successfully implemented in respect of Albania, Croatia and Slovenia. These activities were financed by the REMPEC (Mediterranean Trust Fund) budget. He further explained that activities similar to the MEDA Project's Activities A and C (Assessment of the Situation and Needs), were also carried out in the port of Aqaba, Jordan and in the ports of Tripoli, Misurata, Khoms, and Zawia Terminal in the GSP Libyan Arab Jamahiriya. IMO's Integrated Technical Cooperation Programme financed these latter activities.

AGENDA ITEM 7 **CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE REGIONAL SEMINAR (ACTIVITY E OF THE PROJECT).**

15. Mr. Pace provided the Meeting with information concerning the Regional Seminar on Port Reception Facilities For Collecting Ship-Generated Garbage, Bilge Waters and Oily Wastes in the Mediterranean, which was scheduled to be held in Malta between 24 and 26 November 2004. The objectives of the Seminar were to present and discuss the results of the MEDA Project and of the complementary activities undertaken by REMPEC, and to discuss and decide upon actions to be taken by the Mediterranean coastal States with a view to implementing the results of the Project. The representative from Algeria underlined the importance of the part of the Seminar dedicated to the finances of port reception facilities. Mr. Pace stated that, despite some difficulties in ensuring the participation of speakers from certain financial institutions, REMPEC succeeded in drawing up a programme which covers the main issues related to port reception facilities. He then requested delegations to air their views on the recommendations that are expected to be drawn up by the participants to the Seminar and, in order to facilitate the discussions, suggested that the text of the draft Resolution entitled "Implementation of the Results of the EC/MEDA Financed Project on Port Reception Facilities in the Mediterranean and of REMPEC's Complementary Activities" (REMPEC/MEDA/WG.3/7), which was circulated at the beginning of the Meeting, be used as the basis for the discussions.

16. All delegations supported the idea of a Resolution to be adopted by the participants of the Seminar and, in principle, there was general consensus on its contents. The representatives of Algeria and Egypt, which were supported by some delegations, requested that reference be made in the Resolution to follow-up work related to the identification of possible sources of financing for the setting up of port reception facilities. In this regard, the representative of Malta submitted draft text, which could be incorporated in the Resolution. The representative of Tunisia requested that reference be also made to the Special Area status of the Mediterranean Sea in MARPOL 73/78 Convention, as well as to possible regional cooperation in the field of port reception facilities.

17. The Meeting requested the Secretariat to make the necessary amendments and editorial corrections to the draft Resolution in the view to proposing it for consideration and adoption by the participants of the Regional Seminar. The draft Resolution as agreed upon by the present Meeting is reproduced in **Annex III**.

AGENDA ITEM 8 **OTHER BUSINESS.**

18. No issue was raised under this agenda item.

AGENDA ITEM 9 **ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE MEETING.**

19. The Meeting adopted the present Report on 23 November 2004 at 17.30 hours.

AGENDA ITEM 10 **CLOSURE OF THE MEETING.**

20. The Meeting was closed by the Chairman on Tuesday, 23 November 2004, at 17.35 hours.

ANNEX I

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

I – MEMBERS OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE

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ANNEX II

AGENDA

1. Opening of the Meeting.
2. Organization of the Meeting.
3. Adoption of the Agenda.
4. Review of the overall implementation of the activities of the Project (Part 1).
5. Review of the overall implementation of the activities of the Project (Part 2).
6. Briefing on REMPEC's complementary Projects in the field of port reception facilities.
7. Conclusion and recommendations for the Regional Seminar (Activity E of the Project).
8. Other business.
9. Adoption of the Minutes of the Meeting.
10. Closure of the Meeting.

ANNEX III

DRAFT RESOLUTION

**IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RESULTS OF THE EC/MEDA FINANCED PROJECT
ON PORT RECEPTION FACILITIES IN THE MEDITERRANEAN
AND OF REMPEC'S COMPLEMENTARY ACTIVITIES**

[Adopted by the participants of the Regional Seminar on port reception facilities for collecting ship-generated garbage, bilge waters and oily wastes in the Mediterranean, held in Malta, between 24 and 26 November 2004]

The participants of the Regional Seminar on port reception facilities for collecting ship-generated garbage, bilge waters and oily wastes in the Mediterranean, held in Malta, between 24 and 26 November 2004

Convinced of the importance of protecting the Mediterranean Sea from ship-generated operational pollution,

Referring to the Special Area Status of the Mediterranean Sea as far as Annexes I and V of the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships 1973/78, are concerned,

Bearing in mind the Action Plan Concerning the Provision of Adequate Port Reception Facilities within the Mediterranean Region adopted in Cairo in 1991 by the Meeting of National Experts on Port Reception Facilities in the Mediterranean,

Recalling the adoption in 2002 of the Protocol Concerning Cooperation in Preventing Pollution from Ships and, in Cases of Emergency, Combating Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea (Prevention and Emergency Protocol) which addresses prevention of pollution from ships,

Recalling also Resolution II of the Conference of Plenipotentiaries that adopted the Prevention and Emergency Protocol, which calls for the early implementation of the provisions of the Protocol prior to its entry into force for all Contracting Parties,

Referring to Article 14 of the Prevention and Emergency Protocol, where "*the Parties shall individually, bilaterally or multilaterally take all necessary steps to ensure that reception facilities meeting the needs of ships are available in their ports and terminals*",

Noting that the Prevention and Emergency Protocol entered into force on the 17 March 2004,

Taking into consideration the new objectives and functions of REMPEC as the Regional Centre for the implementation of the Protocol, adopted by their Twelfth Ordinary Meeting, which extended the mandate of the Center to the prevention of the pollution of the marine environment from ships,

Bearing in mind the relevant provisions of the Regional Strategy for the Prevention of and Response to Marine Pollution from Ships, currently under preparation with a view to its adoption by the Contracting Parties at their Fourteenth Ordinary Meeting, and especially its Specific Objective 4.4 on provision of port reception facilities,

Have agreed to:

Endorse the results of the EC/MEDA financed Project on port reception facilities in the Mediterranean and REMPEC's complementary activities financed by the REMPEC (MTF) budget and by IMO's Integrated Technical Cooperation Programme;

Endeavor to take all necessary measures in order to implement these results in their respective ports and terminals;

Review and report to REMPEC on the follow-up and implementation of these results for the setting up reception facilities in their ports and terminals;

Collaborate on a bilateral and multilateral level as well as with REMPEC with a view to identifying possible sources of financing for the effective implementation of these results;

Express their appreciation to the European Commission, International Maritime Organization and REMPEC for providing financial and technical support, thanks to which these important results for the protection of the Mediterranean Sea from ship-generated operational pollution were achieved.