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MARITIME  
ORGANIZATION

## Mediterranean Cooperation in the field of prevention of, preparedness for and response to marine pollution from ships

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16th Inter-Secretariat meeting between Regional Agreement Secretariats, DG ECHO  
and EMSA, 5 February 2020, Brussels, Belgium

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 <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin-top: 20px;">Addresses challenges related to</p> <p style="margin-top: 10px;">Marine Environment Protection</p> <p style="margin-top: 10px;">- Pollution from Ships</p> <p style="margin-top: 20px;">Funds from IMO's Integrated Technical Cooperation Programme (ITCP)</p>	   <p style="font-size: 1.2em; font-weight: bold; margin-top: 10px;">REMPEC</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin-top: 5px;">Established in Malta in 1976 Staff from the Mediterranean region Administered by IMO</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: center; gap: 5px; margin: 5px 0;">                             </div> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin-top: 5px;">Support 21 Mediterranean coastal States and EU in implementing</p>	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">   </div> <p style="margin-top: 20px;">Established in the framework of</p> <p style="margin-top: 20px;">1<sup>st</sup> UNEP Regional Seas Programme Mediterranean Action Plan</p> <p style="margin-top: 20px;">Funded through the Mediterranean Trust Fund (Countries contributions)</p>
<p>IMO's Environmental Conventions &amp; Protocols</p>	<p>Regional Strategy for Prevention of and Response to Marine Pollution from Ships</p>	<p>Barcelona Convention &amp; Prevention and Emergency Protocol</p>

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### Regional Strategy for Prevention of and Response to Marine Pollution from Ships (2016-2021) adopted by the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention: 22 Objectives

1. Ratification of **international maritime conventions** related to the **protection of the marine environment**
2. To control and manage ships' biofouling to **minimise the transfer of invasive aquatic species**
3. Ensuring effective **maritime administrations**
4. To strengthen the **Mediterranean MoU**
5. Provision of **reception facilities in ports**
6. Delivery of **ship-generated wastes**
7. Improved follow-up of pollution events as well as **monitoring and surveillance of illicit discharges**
- 8 To improve the level of **enforcement and the prosecution of discharge offenders**
- 9 To reduce the pollution generated **by pleasure craft activities**
- 10 Reduced risk of collisions by establishing **Ship's Routing Systems**
11. Improved **control of maritime traffic**
12. Identification of Particularly Sensitive Sea Areas (**PSSAs**)
13. Reduction of **marine noise caused by ships**
14. To establish procedures for the designation of **places of refuge** to minimise the risks of widespread pollution
15. To examine the possibility of designating the Mediterranean Sea or parts thereof as **SOx emission control area** under MARPOL Annex VI and effectively implement the existing energy efficiency measures
16. To ensure that adequate **emergency towing capacity** is available throughout the Mediterranean
17. To enhance the levels of **prepositioned spill response equipment**
18. To encourage **R&D** and facilitate **transfer of technology**
19. To improve the quality, speed and effectiveness of **decision making process** in case of pollution incident
20. To increase the **level of knowledge** in the field of preparedness and response to accidental marine pollution
21. To revise the existing **recommendations, principles and guidelines**
22. To strengthen the **capacity** of individual coastal States **to respond** efficiently **to marine pollution incidents** through development of **contingency plans**

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## Land and Sea Based Pollution:

### Preparedness and Response

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#### National Contingency Plan

- **Closing the Gap** (Bosnia & Herzegovina)
- **Readiness Evaluation Tool for Oil Spills - RETOS**



#### Sub- Regional Marine Pollution Contingency Plan

- **Signed:** Cyprus, Greece and Israel
- **Revived:** Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia
- **Supported** by RAMOGE (France, Italy and Monaco)
- **Under development:** Cyprus, Egypt and Greece
- **Being considered:** Adriatic/Ionian Sub regional Oil spill contingency Plan (ASOSCoP) + Lebanon and Cyprus

#### Capacity building

**3 National training** (Hazardous and Noxious Substances and Oil Spill Response), **3 sub-regional /regional workshop** (Hazardous and Noxious Substances, IMO OPRC Level 2, self-assessment tool (RETOS), common emergency communication system), **Conference** and **Exhibition** and **Exercises**,



#### Guidelines and tools


Risks of gaseous releases resulting from maritime accidents – Inter-regional HNS Response Guide – Websites and tools revamp

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## Land and Sea Based Pollution <sup>22</sup>

### Mediterranean Assistance Unit

**25 years** of immediate assistance to respond to oil and chemical spills in the Mediterranean Sea



**6 Members**  
**Experts**  
**available**  
**24 / 7**  
**Free of**  
**charge**



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## Land and Sea Based Pollution <sup>1 5 6 20 21</sup>

### Marine litter and waste management in ports and marinas

- **Synergies** between the **Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean** and the **IMO Action Plan to address marine plastic litter from ships**.
- Workshop on the **G7 Action Plan to Combat Marine Litter in Synergy with the Regional Seas Conventions**
- **Study** on existing **best practices** for the application of charges at for the use of **reasonable costs and of the No-Special-Fee system** port reception facilities,
- **Operational Guidelines on the provision of reception facilities in ports** and the **delivery of ship-generated wastes** in the Mediterranean, adopted by COP21, and **6 pilots** organised
- Guidance Document to determine **the application of charges at reasonable costs** for the use of port reception facilities or, when applicable, application of the **No-Special-Fee system**, in the Mediterranean, adopted by COP21 and **7 pilots** organised
- **8 national meetings** to **raise awareness on the better management of marine litter from sea-based sources in ports and marinas** as well as MARPOL Annex V;
- **1 field visit** Port of Antwerp, **2 Regional Workshop** and **1 Sub-regional workshop (Adriatic)**



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## Land and Sea Based Pollution 1 15 18 20

### SOx Emission Control Area



- Establishment of a **SOx ECA Technical Committee of Experts (20/22 Contracting Parties)** - 19/22 CPs
- **Technical and Feasibility Study**
- **Wide consultation:** Side events (IMO MEPC), international and regional workshops, meetings, seminars, etc...
- **Draft recommendations and Initial draft submission to the IMO**
- **3 MARPOL Annex VI Workshop (ALB, B&H, LYB)**
- **Decision IG.24/8 - Road Map** for a Proposal for the Possible **Designation of the Mediterranean Sea, as a whole, as a SOx ECA, within the Framework of the Barcelona Convention**, adopted by COP21



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## Biodiversity and Ecosystems:

### Biofouling, Ballast Water Management, Noise and Particularly Sensitive Sea Areas 1 2 9 12 13 18 20 21

**IMO Guidelines dissemination** for the control and management of ships' biofouling to minimize the transfer of invasive aquatic species, the reduction of underwater noise from commercial shipping to address adverse impacts on marine life.

**Capacity Building:** Regional Workshop on the AFS Convention and the Biofouling Guidelines (Valletta, Malta, 12 to 14 November 2019)

#### Technical Cooperation/Assistance:

- Guidance on the identification of Particularly Sensitive Sea Areas (PSSAs) in relation with Specially Protected Areas of Mediterranean Importance (SPAMIs)



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## Illicit discharges:

**Mediterranean Network of Law Enforcement Officials relating to MARPOL within the framework of the Barcelona Convention (MENELAS)**

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- .1 prepare a **common marine oil pollution detection/investigation report**;
- .2 study the modalities for the creation and operation, including in the possible governance and financing of a regional **"Blue Fund"**;
- .3 review **existing applicable sanctions** at the national level with regard to illicit ship pollution discharges;
- .4 prepare a **draft decision to apply criteria for a common minimum level of fines for each offense provided for under MARPOL**



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## Mediterranean Offshore Action Plan:

### Mediterranean Offshore Common offshore standards

- Disposal of oil and oily mixtures, the use and disposal of drilling fluids and cutting and analytical measurements, adopted by COP21
- Special restrictions or conditions for specially protected areas, adopted by COP21
- Environment Impact Assessment from offshore activities, under development

### Working Group

- Barcelona Convention Offshore Oil and Gas Group (OFOG) Sub-Group on Environmental Impact

### Structure and cooperation

- Budget increase, staff and secondment



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## 2020-2021 Priorities


- **Post-2021 Mediterranean Strategy for Prevention of and Response to Marine Pollution from Ships**
  - Identify post 2021 vision, strategic directions and objectives for the region
  - Outline main institutions roles and responsibilities within their respective mandate, and identify required synergies
  - Formalise synergies between main key players with a regional mandate to support CPs to address global priority actions
  - Ensure concerted planning, coordinated implementation
- **Road Map for a Proposal for the Possible Designation of the Mediterranean Sea, as a whole, as an SOx ECA, within the Framework of the Barcelona Convention**
  - Studies, knowledge gathering, technical assistance, draft submission
- **Enhance Marine Oil and HNS regional cooperation in the Mediterranean**
  - West MOPOCo Project, RETOS, NCP, SCP and SCP Network

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## REMPEC Meeting and Activities 2020-2021

29-30 January 2020	Sub-Regional Meeting on the Better Management of Marine Litter from Sea-based Sources in Ports and Marinas in the Adriatic
26-27 February 2020	National Workshop on Ratification and Effective Implementation of MARPOL Annex VI for Algeria
3-4 March 2020	National Workshop on Ratification and Effective Implementation of MARPOL Annex VI for Lebanon <sup>(ii)</sup>
28-30 April 2020	Sub-regional Workshop on the use of the RETOS™ for the assessment of the level of oil spill response planning and readiness management
4-8 May 2020	National Pilots related to the Better Management of Marine Litter from Sea-based Sources in Ports & Marinas for Lebanon <sup>(i) (ii)</sup>
May-June 2020	National Workshop on Ratification and Effective Implementation of MARPOL Annex VI for Egypt <sup>(i)</sup>
2-4 June 2020	Regional Workshop on the Ballast Water Management Convention
29 June 2020	National workshop on the AFS Convention for Albania
15-16 September 2020	Fourth Meeting of the Mediterranean Network of Law Enforcement Officials relating to MARPOL within the framework of the Barcelona Convention (MENELAS)
6-7 October 2020	Regional Meeting of National Experts on the Post-2021 Mediterranean Strategy for Prevention of and Response to Marine Pollution from Ships
27-29 October 2020	Regional Workshop to enhance Marine Oil and HNS regional cooperation in the Mediterranean (MEDEXPOL 2020)
25-27 May 2021	Fourteenth Meeting of the Focal Points of the Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC)
8-9 June 2021	Third Meeting of the Barcelona Convention Offshore Oil and Gas Group (OFOG)

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**COP21 - Napoli**  
 2-5 December 2019  
 UNEP/Mediterranean Action Plan - Barcelona Convention  
<http://www.cop21med-italy.net/>

Logos for UN environment, Mediterranean Action Plan, IMO, and Sustainable Development Goals are displayed at the bottom left.

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REMPEC, an IMO / UNEP Centre assisting the Mediterranean coastal States in ratifying, transposing, implementing and enforcing international maritime conventions

**UN environment**    **IMO** INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ORGANIZATION

**Thank you**

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