



REMPEC



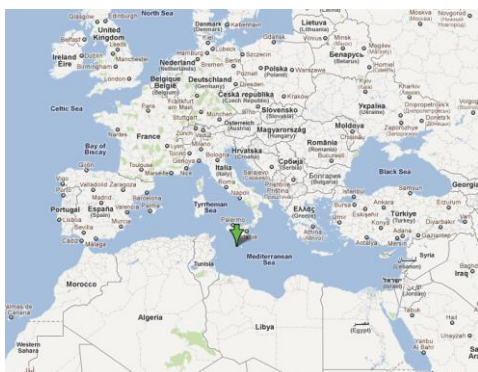
INTERNATIONAL  
MARITIME  
ORGANIZATION

# Regional Strategy for Prevention of and Response to Marine Pollution from Ships 2016-2021

Euro-Mediterranean Working Group "Maritime transport" meeting  
20 April 2016  
Brussels, Belgium

## REMPEC

Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre  
for the Mediterranean Sea, established in Malta since  
1977.



## INSTITUTIONAL AND LEGAL FRAMEWORK



### United Nations



**International  
Maritime Organisation  
(IMO)**



**United Nations  
Environment Programme  
(UNEP/MAP)**



**IMO's Conventions**

**Barcelona Convention**

**Relevant issue  
Pollution incidents**

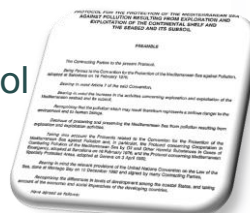
**Relevant geographical area :  
the Mediterranean region**



**REMPEC**

## Barcelona Convention 7 Protocols

- Dumping Protocol
- Land-based Sources Protocol
- Specially Protected Areas Protocol
- Offshore Protocol
- Hazardous Wastes Protocol
- Integrated Coastal Zones Management Protocol
- Prevention and Emergency situation Protocol



## National Focal Points



REMPEC

Governmental  
Focal Point

Prevention  
Focal Point

OPRC  
Focal Point

24 hour  
Focal Point

Mutual Assistance  
Focal Point

Albania	France	Malta	Syria
Algeria	Greece	Monaco	Tunisia
Bosnia Herzegovina	Israel	Montenegro	Turkey
Croatia	Italy	Morocco	
Cyprus	Lebanon	Slovenia	European Union
Egypt	Libya	Spain	

## REGIONAL STRATEGY FRAMEWORK

- Protocol concerning Cooperation in Preventing Pollution from Ships and, in Cases of Emergency, Combating Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea, hereinafter referred to as the “**2002 Prevention and Emergency Protocol**”
- **Regional Strategy for Prevention of and Response to Marine Pollution from Ships (2005-2015)** adopted by COP 14 (Portorož, Slovenia, 2005)
- **Decision IG.21/17 of COP 18** (Istanbul, Turkey, December 2013)
- **Mandate of the REMPEC** as adopted by COP16 in 2009

## PREPARATION CONSULTATION PROCESS



## Regional Strategy Overview

- Aims at **preventing pollution from ships and maritime accidents** and at **enhancing the level of preparedness for response** to major pollution incidents, in the Mediterranean region
- Lists the **priority issues** to be addressed when implementing the 2002 Prevention and Emergency Protocol
- Include, for each of these issues, **expected outputs** and a **timetable** for the implementation of the **22 objectives** to be achieved **by 2021**

## GENERAL OBJECTIVES

The overarching objectives of the Revised Regional Strategy are threefold:

1. **prevention of pollution from ships**
2. **prevention of maritime accidents**
3. **preparation for response to major pollution incidents**

Priority for each expected output:

- **High priority:** to end of 2018
- **Medium priority:** to end of 2020

## GENERAL OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Regional Strategy have **strong synergies** with the work of other components of the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) and related regional and international organizations:

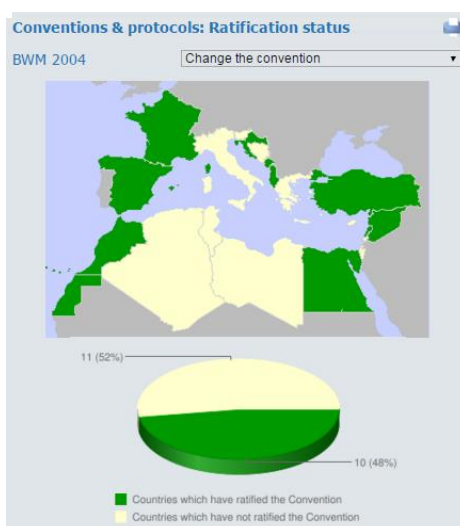
- **Mediterranean:** MAP Phase II, UNEP/MAP's Mid-Term Strategy (2016-2021), Ecosystem Approach (EcAp), Revised Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD), Regional Strategy on Ships' Ballast Water Management, Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management, Offshore Protocol Action Plan
- **European:** EMSA Action Plan, Union Civil Protection Mechanism (UCPM), Marine Strategy Framework, Horizon 2020 Initiative
- **International:** IMO Member State Audit Scheme (IMSAS) (including the IMO Instruments Implementation Code), IMO Integrated Technical Cooperation Programme (ITCP) priorities

## Synergies

- Regional Transport Action Plan for the Mediterranean Region (RTAP) (2014 – 2020)
- Union for the Mediterranean Ministerial Conference on Blue Economy, 17 November 2015, Brussels Declaration:

*“As regards maritime governance, Ministers acknowledge:  
- the work carried out under existing co-operation and coordination frameworks and **call for further strengthening of synergies of projects and activities between the Union for the Mediterranean Secretariat, the European Commission, the International Maritime Organization, the UNEP/MAP, and other agreed relevant regional executive organisations”***

### Specific Objective 1: Ratification of relevant international maritime conventions related to the protection of the marine environment



Status of ratification available on REMPEC's Website [www.rempec.org](http://www.rempec.org)

## Specific Objective 2: To control and manage ships' biofouling to minimise the transfer of invasive aquatic species

IMO 2011 *Guidelines for the control and management of ships' biofouling to minimize the transfer of invasive aquatic species* to be **applied** and **disseminated**

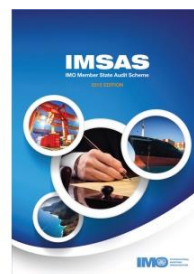


*Examples of biofouling*

## Specific Objective 3 Ensuring effective maritime administrations

Contracting Parties to:

- prepare **National Action Plans (NAP)**
- conduct a **self-assessment of their capabilities and performance**
- have undertaken the **IMO Member State Audit Scheme**



The Secretariat to:

- continue **improving** the knowledge and expertise of flag State inspection officers .



## Specific Objective 4

### To strengthen the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on port State control (PSC) in the Mediterranean region (Mediterranean MoU)

Contracting Parties to:

- request REMPEC to continue playing an enabling role in improving the effectiveness of the **Mediterranean MoU** and enhancing the co-operation between the **Mediterranean MoU** and the **Paris MoU**;



REMPEC to:

- continue associating itself with **port State control training activities**

## Specific Objective 5

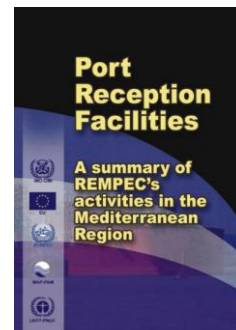
### Provision of reception facilities in ports

Contracting Parties to:

- provide **adequate reception facilities**
- consider **procedures** related to the cost of the use of such facilities

The Secretariat to:

- prepare **advice** taking into account the **manuals and guides developed by IMO**
- contribute to the implementation of the **Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management**





## Specific Objective 6

### Delivery of ship-generated wastes

Contracting Parties to:

- establish a **system of notification** to a vessel's next port of call of the status of its on-board retention of wastes
- **empower** Maritime authorities to require the Masters of vessels to discharge wastes into designated port reception facilities before sailing

The Secretariat to:

- provide advice on the subject taking also into account Specific Objective 4 and the **Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management**

## Specific Objective 7

### Improved follow-up of pollution events as well as monitoring and surveillance of illicit discharges

Contracting Parties to:

- establish **systems** and **procedures** for national and sub-regional monitoring and surveillance
- establish **procedures to over-fly the waters** under the jurisdiction of a neighbouring State

The Secretariat to:

- continue organizing and participating in any **new activities** on this issue in coordination with **EMSA** and **other regional agreements**.



## OSCAR-MED operations

- **2009:** Hyères, France, 12-16 October.
- **2013:** Palma de Mallorca, Spain, 24- 26 June
- **2015:** Ligurian Sea/ Corsica Channel, 29- 30 September



Photo : French customs



Photo: Alberto Vera

### Specific Objective 8

## To improve the level of enforcement and the prosecution of discharge offenders

Contracting Parties to:

- have a **national legal framework** for prosecuting discharge offenders
- **actively participate** in the Mediterranean Network of Law Enforcement Officials within the framework of the Barcelona Convention (MENELAS).

The Secretariat to:

- act as the **Secretariat** of the MENELAS
- maintain the **MENELAS Information System**

# MENELAS

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

### **Background**

- Art. 6 of the Barcelona Convention
- Art. 3.1 and 5 of the 2002 Prevention and Emergency Protocol
- MARPOL Convention → Mediterranean Sea listed as a Special Area
- SO6&7 of the Regional Strategy (2005-2015) and SO7&8 of the Regional Strategy (2016-2021)
- Proven effectiveness of dedicated networks of investigators and sanctioning authorities established under the Regional Seas framework (NSN, ENPRO...)
- **Establishment of the MENELAS**  
→ Decision IG.21/9 by COP18 (Istanbul, Turkey, December 2013)

## Terms of Reference

### Scope of MENELAS:

- Network of individuals from participating States supported by an electronic information system.
- **Overall objective:** to facilitate cooperation between its members in order to improve the enforcement of the international regulations regarding discharges at sea from ships as laid down in MARPOL in accordance with relevant provisions of Barcelona Convention and 2002 Prevention and Emergency Protocol

## Terms of Reference

### Membership:

- Members are Mediterranean States which decide to voluntarily join the network.
- So far, MENELAS has 14 members, as follows:
  - Albania;
  - Algeria;
  - Croatia;
  - Egypt;
  - European Union;
  - France;
  - Greece;
  - Israel;
  - Malta;
  - Montenegro;
  - Morocco;
  - Slovenia;
  - Syria;
  - Turkey.

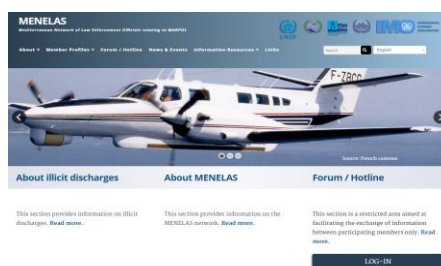
# Terms of Reference

## Membership:

Each member should nominate a Designated Representative (DR) with professional experience in MARPOL related violations who will, *inter alia*:

- **Disseminate** relevant information received through MENELAS;
- Act as **liaison officer** with appropriate entity or individual to answer queries received from another MENELAS member, where relevant; and
- **Be responsible** for updating the “country page” of his/her country on the MENELAS website.

## MENELAS INFORMATION SYSTEM



*MENELAS Information System*

- Developed in the context of the ReGoKo Project
- Launched on 20 November 2015
- Available both in English and French:

<http://www.menelas.org/>

## Terms of Reference

The MENELAS information system is an internet-based tool comprising two main parts:

- a public interface: general information is made available to the public
- a “forum/hotline”: restricted area aimed at facilitating the exchange of information between participating members only, where:
  - requests for specific information can be made;
  - restricted information can be shared on *inter alia* their legal framework, "tips" for investigators, special techniques / devices / tools, evidence gathering / procedures, lessons learnt, post-case analyses; and
  - all participating members can be alerted of a specific emergency through a hotline with the possibility to interact with each other accordingly.

## Terms of Reference

### Activities:

- reporting methodology;
- aerial observation and reporting of oil slicks; and
- investigation techniques on board a suspected ship.

## Meeting of MENELAS, Toulon, France, from 29 September to 1 October 2015

- 18 participants from 12 CPs, RAMOGE Agreement, Plan Bleu and REMPEC as well as INTERPOL; and
- 8 other representatives from France (PREMAR MED and Marseille TGI), Italy (Guardia Costiera), Monaco (Division de Police Maritime et Aéroportuaire) and Spain (SASEMAR), who participated in the OSCAR-MED 2015 operation.



## 2016-2017 MENELAS Programme of activities

- marine oil pollution detection/investigation report;
- establishment of a MENELAS database on illicit ship pollution discharges in the Mediterranean;
- review existing applicable sanctions at national level with regard to illicit ship pollution discharges; and
- measures to charge reasonable costs for the use of port reception facilities or, when applicable, apply a No-Special-Fee system.



## Specific Objective 9

### To reduce the pollution generated by pleasure craft activities

Contracting Parties to:

- implement **the *Guidelines concerning Pleasure Craft Activities and the Protection of the Marine Environment in the Mediterranean***, in conjunction with the relevant provisions of the MARPOL Convention and the Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management
- **report** to the Secretariat accordingly

The Secretariat to:

- **assist in the implementation** of the Guidelines and **keep a record** of the above reports.



## Specific Objective 10

### Reduced risk of collisions by establishing Ship's Routeing Systems

Contracting Parties to:

- propose **additional routeing systems** to IMO
- consider establishing **Maritime Spatial Plans**

The Secretariat to:

- assist in the **identification of possible sea areas** where a routeing system might be deemed necessary
- support, **in close cooperation with other MAP components**, Contracting Parties in their efforts toward the establishment of MSPs.

## Specific Objective 11

### Improved control of maritime traffic

Contracting Parties to:

- **identify areas** where control of maritime traffic could be improved by using **AIS, VTS and mandatory ship reporting systems**.
- **improve technical cooperation among VTS Centres** of neighbouring countries and facilitate the information exchange

The Secretariat to:

- negotiate with appropriate organizations and agencies the **international financial assistance** required to establish such regime.

## Specific Objective 12

### Identification of Particularly Sensitive Sea Areas (PSSAs)

Contracting Parties to:

- **identify areas** within their jurisdiction which need the additional protection afforded by their designation as PSSAs.

The Secretariat to:

- initiate, **in conjunction with SPA/RAC**, the process of identification of those areas which could be proposed to IMO for designation as PSSAs.



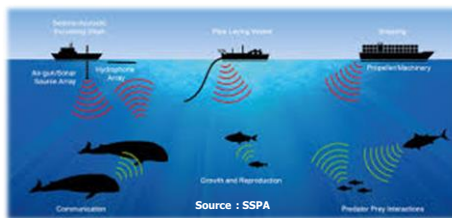
Photo : REMPEC

## Specific Objective 13

### Reduction of marine noise caused by ships

Contracting Parties to:

- urge their national designers and shipbuilders, as well as the operators of ships flying their flag, to implement the *IMO Guidelines for the reduction of underwater noise from commercial shipping*.



## Specific Objective 14

### To establish procedures for the designation of places of refuge in order to minimise the risks of widespread pollution

Contracting Parties to:

- identify appropriate **procedures** to facilitate the decision making when **designating a place of refuge for ships in need of assistance**, as outlined in relevant **IMO guidelines and EU Directives**.
- draw up **plans to deal with ships in need of assistance**.



## SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE 15 : SECA

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

Contracting Parties to:

- establish a **technical committee of experts** to carry out a study to examine the relevant of a roadmap to designate **certain areas** of the Mediterranean as a **SOx Emission Control Area (ECA)**
- if relevant, **completion** of necessary arrangements to prepare such submission to **IMO**
- **participate** in relevant debates at IMO on enhancing the energy efficiency of international shipping

The Secretariat to:

- prepare a **study** assessing the feasibility of the above
- explore possible future **measures** for enhancing the energy efficiency of international shipping and **assess data collection/reporting system** for fuel consumption

## SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE 16 Emergency towing capacity

To ensure that adequate emergency towing capacity is available throughout the Mediterranean to assist vessels, including tankers, in distress

Contracting Parties to:

- consider entering into **agreements with neighbouring coastal States** to share **emergency towing equipment** and arrangements to **assist ships in need of assistance**.

The Secretariat to:

- **assess** emergency towing capacities of Mediterranean States



Photo: Emergency Towing Arrangements in the Mediterranean Sea Report- April 2009

## SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE 17

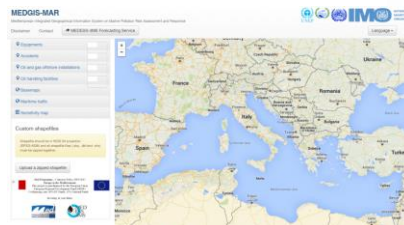
### To enhance the levels of pre-positioned spill response equipment under the direct control of Mediterranean States

Contracting Parties to:

- establish and update **national stockpiles of OSR and HNS response equipment** and share **financing practises** with REMPEC

The Secretariat to:

- assist in identifying the **minimum level** of OSR equipment
- maintain and update the **regional information system**
- disseminate **financing practises**
- explore possible **synergies RIS/CECIS**



Mediterranean Integrated Geographical Information System on Marine Pollution Risk Assessment and Response  
<http://medgismar.rempec.org/>

## SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE 18

**To encourage the participation of the regional scientific and technical institutions in research and development activities and to facilitate transfer of technology**

Contracting Parties to:

- urge their **key players** to actively participate in relevant **R&D activities, programmes and international fora** and **report to REMPEC** accordingly.

The Secretariat to:

- continue assisting **regional institutions and industry** in identifying fields of research and in the **dissemination and exchange** of results of national R&D activities and programmes, in cooperation with **other Regional Agreements**.

## SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE 19

**To improve the quality, speed and effectiveness of decision-making process in case of marine pollution incidents through the development and introduction of technical and decision support tools**

Contracting Parties to:

- promote active participation of their national institutions and programmes to stimulate the **development/improvement of decision support tools**.
- contribute to the development of a quality assurance programme for data reporting and collection in line with the EcAp Monitoring Programme.

The Secretariat to:

- make **available IT based decision support tools** and explore the **possible capitalisation** of tools developed under other regional initiatives.



MEDESS-4MS Project  
<http://www.medess4ms.eu/>

## SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE 20

**To increase as much as practical, the level of knowledge in the field of preparedness and response to accidental marine pollution by oil and other harmful substances**

Contracting Parties to:

- have **national training programmes** for response to incidents involving oil and other HNS, and to ensure a continuous education of such personnel through a **train the trainer programme**.
- carry out **regular exercises**

The Secretariat to:

- Support the **national training programmes** and to continue delivering **“Training of Trainers” courses**.
- promote the organisation of **regular exercises**.



POSOW Training material  
[www.posow.org](http://www.posow.org)

## SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE 21

To revise the existing recommendations, principles and guidelines, and to develop new ones aimed at facilitating international co-operation and mutual assistance within the framework of the 2002 Prevention and Emergency Protocol

Contracting Parties to:

- **revise** existing relevant recommendations, principles and guidelines
- **identify** such material that need to be revised, updated and/or amended, as well as any **additional ones** which should be adopted for the purpose
- facilitate **mutual assistance** by streamlining respective national procedures for **entry into, movement within and exit from** their territory of specialized emergency personnel and equipment
- consider **CECIS Marine pollution** to enhance coordination of requests and offers of international assistance

The Secretariat to:

- continue assisting in the above actions in cooperation with **IMO, other Regional Agreements, EMSA and the Union Civil Protection Mechanism.**

## SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE 22

To strengthen the capacity of individual coastal States to respond efficiently to marine pollution incidents through development of sub-regional operational agreements and contingency plans

Contracting Parties to:

- assess, prepare, or review and adopt **NCPs**
- establish **national systems** for preparedness for and response to oil and HNS spills, with a view to concluding **sub-regional agreements** covering the entire Mediterranean region
- negotiate, conclude and implement **sub-regional agreements**

The Secretariat to:

- assist using advice and material from **other Regional Agreements**





# **A Strategy for the Mediterranean Region**

**prepared and adopted by  
the Contracting Parties to the  
Barcelona Convention**



**REMPEC**



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION**

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