



United Nations Environment Programme



UNEP(OCA)/MED IG.5/13
14 April 1995

Original: ENGLISH

MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN

Ninth Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting
Parties to the Convention for the Protection
of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution
and its Protocols

Barcelona, 5-8 June 1995

**MEDIUM TERM PROGRAMME (1994-1997) OF THE ACTIVITIES OF REMPEC
(including amendments to 1994-1995 biennium and
new proposals for 1996-1997 biennium)**

Introduction

The Meeting of the Focal Points of the Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC) held in Malta, 4-6 October 1994, discussed and commented on the proposals prepared by the Centre regarding future priority actions for REMPEC and approved an amended and revised medium term programme for the period 1994-1997 based on the discussions held during the Meeting.

The Meeting decided and gave guidance for future priority action of REMPEC. Future activities of the Centre could be oriented towards action indicated in the following paragraphs.

1. As far as preparedness is concerned the Centre shall:
 - a) continue to develop and maintain the Regional Information System and develop decision support tools;
 - b) concentrate its action, essentially, on the development of national systems for preparedness and response and on the adoption of subregional contingency plans;
 - c) organize, within the limits of the budget allocated to it, a training programme adapted to the needs of the States in the region, paying particular attention to assistance in national training courses and giving priority to countries that have greater needs;
 - d) undertake in co-operation with interested organizations, necessary activities related to preparedness for and response to maritime transport related accidents involving hazardous substances in port areas and their approaches;
 - e) organize exercises for testing arrangements concerning regional co-operation;
 - f) prepare new arrangements and procedures applicable to co-operation and international assistance;
 - g) continue and strengthen relations and contacts with organizations representing the oil and shipping Industries, with a view to developing co-operation between government and industry; and finally
 - h) organize and maintain the operational status of the Mediterranean Assistance Unit.
2. In the event of marine pollution incidents, following requests from the States, whilst complying with its objectives and functions and taking into account the means at its disposal, REMPEC shall:

- a) notify and provide technical advice, and any other information which the States might need, making use of the Regional Information System which has been developed and is updated by the Centre;
- b) activate the Mediterranean Assistance Unit to assist in response to accidental marine pollution;
- c) help to secure international assistance and co-ordinate this assistance, regardless of whether the means (equipment, products, strike teams) are provided by other governments or by the private sector;
- d) endeavour to help the States in the dissemination of information.

The assistance which the Centre could render to the States following their request is decided on by the competent national authorities and REMPEC. This is done by examining the situation on a case by case basis. REMPEC shall endeavour to respond, most rapidly and in the most appropriate way, to all requests for assistance, relying in particular upon the Regional Information System.

The approved medium term programme for the period 1994-1997 follows this introduction.

PROPOSED REVISED
MEDIUM TERM PROGRAMME (1994-1997) OF THE ACTIVITIES OF REMPEC
(Including amendments to 1994-1995 biennium and new proposals for 1996-1997 biennium)

ACTIVITIES / ACTIONS	CARRIED OUT BY	YEAR OF REALIZATION			
		1994	1995	1996	1997
I. INFORMATION					
Collection and dissemination of information (e.g. guidelines, recommendations and technical documents) from other relevant organizations and from the shipping, oil and chemical industry	REMPEC	permanent activity			
REGIONAL INFORMATION SYSTEM (oil and hazardous substances)					
PART A: Basic Documents, Recommendations, Principles and Guidelines concerning marine pollution preparedness, response and mutual assistance.					
1. Preparation of:					
(a) Guidelines concerning the exchange of liaison officers among Contracting Parties in case of operations concerning several States.	REMPEC	X	X		
(b) Principles and Guidelines concerning the arrangements that could be taken in order to ensure liaison between national authorities and relevant representatives from private entities in case of an accident (ship-owner and his representatives, oil industry).	REMPEC	X	X		
PART B : Lists and Inventories					
2. Directory of competent national authorities in charge of accidental marine pollution preparedness, response and mutual assistance and other relevant information - <u>SECTION 1.</u>	REMPEC	X	X	X	X
3. Inventory of experts, equipment and products which can be, under certain conditions, put at the disposal of a State, which so requests, in cases of emergency - <u>SECTION 2.</u>	REMPEC		X		X
4. Directory of companies offering services in the Mediterranean in case of emergency - <u>SECTION 4</u>	REMPEC		X		X
5. Complete computerization and maintain this part of the RIS.	REMPEC	permanent activity			
PART C : Databanks, Forecasting Models and Decision Support Systems					
6. Maintenance, utilization and updating of the partially computerized databank of the Centre.	REMPEC	permanent activity			
7. Acquisition of behaviour simulation models	REMPEC	permanent activity			

ACTIVITIES / ACTIONS	CARRIED OUT BY	YEAR OF REALIZATION			
		1994	1995	1996	1997
8. Description of the Centre's databanks simulation models and information services which can be provided by the Centre	REMPEC			X	
9. Develop and maintain the database TROCS.	REMPEC	permanent activity			
10. List of alerts and accidents in the Mediterranean	REMPEC	X	X	X	X
11. Directory of Mediterranean Ports	REMPEC		X		X
12. Directory of Mediterranean Meteorological Centres	REMPEC			X	
<u>PART D : Operational Guides and Technical Documents</u>					
13. Protective clothing and measuring devices to be used in case of accidents involving chemical products.	REMPEC	X			
14. Associated risks of gases and volatile liquids spilled at sea.	REMPEC		X		
15. Impact of spilled hazardous substances on human life and the marine environment.	REMPEC			X	
16. Remote sensing techniques applicable to spilled hazardous substances in the marine environment.	REMPEC				X
17. Case histories describing hazardous material spills.	REMPEC			X	
18. Priority list of substances.	REMPEC				X
19. Technical intervention files of an operational character by substance.	REMPEC				X
20. Guide of marine spill countermeasures	REMPEC		X		
<u>II. ASSISTANCE TO COUNTRIES WHICH SO REQUEST, IN DEVELOPING THEIR NATIONAL CAPABILITIES</u>					
<u>A. National and Sub-Regional Systems</u>					
21. Assistance to countries in developing their information sources at the national level by providing computerized material developed by REMPEC.	REMPEC	on request			
22. Providing assistance to countries which so request, to develop their national system for preparedness and response.	Consultant	on request			
23. Providing assistance to countries which so request, for the preparation of projects for the acquisition of combating equipment which would be submitted to possible sources of international financing.	Consultant	on request			
24. Development of sub-regional systems for combating major marine pollution accidents:	EEC/REMPEC Consultant	on request			
(a) Eastern Mediterranean		X	X		
(b) Central Mediterranean				X	X
25. Providing assistance to States, which so request, for the preparation and development of bilateral operational agreements amongst neighbouring coastal States	REMPEC Consultant	on request			

ACTIVITIES / ACTIONS	CARRIED OUT BY	YEAR OF REALIZATION			
		1994	1995	1996	1997
B. Port Emergency Response System					
26. Risk analysis: . Pilot project	REMPEC in cooperation with other organizations			X	X
27. Port emergency plan: . Pilot project	REMPEC in cooperation with other organizations			X	X
28. Decision support system: a) Application of CAMEO to Mediterranean Region: b) Pilot project: c) Training	REMPEC in cooperation with other organizations REMPEC in cooperation with other organizations REMPEC in cooperation with other organizations		X	X	X
29. Setting up a communications network between Mediterranean ports for the exchange of information - feasibility study	Co-ordinated by REMPEC			X	X
D. Support for Projects					
30. Assistance to find financial support for projects	REMPEC	on request			
31. Assistance in project design	REMPEC	on request			
32. Assistance in project implementation	REMPEC	on request			
III. TRAINING					
33. Regional training courses of a general type on oil and hazardous substances.	REMPEC	X		X	
34. Specialized regional training course on oil.	REMPEC		X		X
35. Specialized regional training course on hazardous substances.	REMPEC				X
36. Regional training course for trainers (French)	REMPEC		X		
37. Regional training course for trainers (English)	REMPEC			X	
38. Providing assistance to States, which so request in the preparation of national training seminars (assistance to two seminars per year).	REMPEC	on request			
39. Making available teaching documents for national training activities	REMPEC	permanent activity			

ACTIVITIES / ACTIONS	CARRIED OUT BY	YEAR OF REALIZATION			
		1994	1995	1996	1997
40. Identifying training capabilities in the region for preparedness and response to accidents in ports	REMPEC		X		
41. Preparation of a training programme on preparedness and response in ports	REMPEC		X	X	
IV. CO-OPERATION AND MUTUAL ASSISTANCE IN CASE OF EMERGENCY					
42. Organization of alert exercises aimed at testing the use of the standard alert message and communications network.	REMPEC		X		X
43. Organization of "paper exercises".	REMPEC			X	
44. Organization of "operational exercises with the deployment of equipment".	in co-operation with a Contracting Party or with the oil industry		X		X
45. Organization and administration of the Mediterranean Assistance Unit to assist combating accidental marine pollution.	REMPEC	permanent activity			
46. Maintenance of relations and contacts with the representative organizations of oil and shipping industries	REMPEC	permanent activity			
47. Co-operation with chemical industry (ICE project)	REMPEC in co-operation with CEFIC	permanent activity			