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Conference of Plenipotentiaries of the
Coastal States of the Mediterranean
Region on the Protection of the
Mediterranean Sea (convened by UNEP)

Barcelona, 2 to 13 February 1976
Item 12 of the Agenda

PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF A
REGIONAL OIL-COMBATING CENTRE
FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN

Report by the
Executive Director

Prepared in co-operation with
The Inter-Governmental
Maritime Consultative Organization

Addendum

1. In connection with the decision of the Intergovernmental Consultation of Experts on a Regional Oil-Combating Centre that governments were to submit any offer to host the regional or subregional centres to UNEP, the Government of Israel has offered to provide facilities for the establishment of a Regional or Subregional Communication Centre and for the establishment of a Subregional Oil-Combating service.

REGIONAL OR SUBREGIONAL COMMUNICATIONS CENTRE

2. The objectives of a regional or subregional communications centre would be as follows:

- A. To establish a system of communications in order to ensure the reception, transmission and dissemination of all urgent reports and information relating to massive quantities of oil or other harmful substances resulting from accidental causes or accumulations of small discharges which are polluting or threatening to pollute the sea.
- B. To serve as a communications station when measures to combat or prevent pollution are instituted.
- C. To serve as a co-ordinating centre for oil-combating measures when requested by the States concerned.

3. An oil slick reporting system is already operated by Israel's Ministry of Transport. Messages would be received "collect" from any merchant ship or civil aircraft willing to co-operate. The telecommunication facilities of Israel are described in Annex I.

4. All messages received by the communications centre would be retransmitted free of charge to all States party to the Protocol on Co-operation in Combating Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by Oil and other Harmful Substances in Cases of Emergency. A second message containing an analysis and prognosis of the incident, a report of a similar incident, and suggestions for remedied actions, would be disseminated after an appropriate time interval.

5. If the centre is requested by the States concerned to co-ordinate measures taken for combating pollution, the expenses would be charged to the States concerned in accordance with international telecommunication tariffs.

6. A sum of US\$100,000 per annum would be required to cover computer programs, collection of information, printing and other expenses. This amount would be publicly audited, and any annual surplus would be carried forward and deducted from the budget of the following year.

SUBREGIONAL OIL-COMBATING SERVICE

7. The objectives of a subregional oil-combating service would be as follows:

- A. To provide equipment, ships, aircraft and manpower for combating pollution of the sea by oil and other harmful substances.
- B. To provide logistic support to ships, aircraft and manpower taking part in the operations.
- C. To combat pollution in accordance with the instructions and directives of the regional or subregional communication centre for this purpose.
- D. To retrieve, eliminate or make harmless harmful substances in various packaged forms, lost or released into the marine environment.
- E. To integrate and co-operate with any other national or multinational task force set up for the above objectives.
- F. To prepare contingency plans and to exercise and train in their performance, so as always to be in an efficient state of preparedness.

8. The following equipment and material are in a permanent state of readiness:

- A. Six small tug-boats fitted with dispersant spraying equipment. Each boat has an internal tank capacity of 800 litres of dispersants. Their range of operations is up to longitude 32° East.
- B. Twenty-five crop spraying planes capable of spraying dispersants, with a range of 150 miles.
- C. Two self-contained salvage pumps for the transfer of harmful substances from chemical tankers or oil tankers.
- D. Small supply vessels for logistic support.
- E. Oil booms of narrow types
- F. Absorbing material
- G. Dispersants
- H. Four tractor-drawn beach cleaning machines.

9. The following equipment and manpower are on permanent alert:

- A. Pumping equipment capable of transferring 1000 tons of oil per hour from a stricken vessel.
- B. Tankers of various size and speed in ballast condition, that can be deviated from their route so as to receive oil pumped from a stricken vessel.
- C. Divers and equipment for the removal of harmful packages from a depth of up to 50 metres and a gross weight of up to 50 tons.

10. The following personnel is on permanent alert:

- A. Two marine inspectors in charge of pollution control.
- B. The staff of the laboratories of the Israel Institute of Petroleum and Energy.
- C. The staff of the laboratories and the crew of the research ship of the Israel Oceanographic and Limnological Institute.
- D. A small team of trained pollution control workers, employees of the Nature Reserves Authority, who are fully trained in operating the various types of equipment.

11. The following additional equipment will be required:

	<u>Cost</u>
A. Five complete Helicopter to Ship and air deployed APTS systems. (APTS = Antipollution Transfer and Storage)	\$ 400,000.-
B. Five 3000 bbl. containers with water deployment gear	\$ 900,000.-
C. Five floating surface skimming oil pumps of the Rheinwerft Type 1000 EX dl G4	\$ 100,000.-
D. Skimming oil pump of the Rheinwerft Type 300-K3	\$ 200,000.-
E. 800 meters floating oil transfer hoses	\$ 400,000.-
Total	<u>US\$ 2,000,000.-</u>

12. As indicated above, the sum of US\$2,000,000 would be required for the acquisition of additional equipment. The Government of Israel would provide the operating personnel and maintenance. In case of emergencies, equipment could be shipped to the party requesting assistance. The equipment could be operated by the party requesting, provided that it has personnel trained in advance. The party requesting assistance would be billed according to the net actual costs of the services rendered with an addition of 20% to cover overhead expenses.

TELECOMMUNICATION FACILITIES OF ISRAEL

<u>FACILITY</u>	<u>IN OPERATION</u>
<p>Telephone Semi-automatic and full automatic operation</p>	<p>Submarine cable system to Europe One cable via France - 128 channels One cable via Italy - 1380 channels</p> <p>Satellite communication system with 18 countries including: France, Italy, Spain, Greece. - 170 channels</p> <p>UHF 24 channels to Cyprus and Greece HF one channel to Turkey (Radio Telephone)</p>
<p>Telex</p>	<p>Direct connections:- Cyprus - 6 channels France - 20 channels Greece - 8 channels Italy - 24 channels</p> <p>Subscriber dialing:- Spain -</p>
<p>Point to point circuits</p>	<p>420 channels to 22 countries including two Mediterranean countries: Turkey, Cyprus.</p>
<p>Aeronautical fixed telecommunication network (aeronautical telex system)</p>	<p>Via SYTA/London to all Mediterranean countries. Telephone/Telex to air control Cyprus</p>
<p>Aeronautical mobile communications</p>	<p>H/F and VHF air to ground and ground to air, including SELCAL, covering the whole Mediterranean.</p>
<p>Maritime:- Coast station 4 x 0 (Haifa radio)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continuous watch on 500 Kc/s radio telegraphy range 300 miles. - Continuous watch on 2182 Kc/s radio telephony, range up to 500 miles. - Continuous watch on two simultaneous H/F calling bands and in addition on a special calling frequency. Range: world wide - Continuous watch on VHF channel 16, range 60 miles and over. - Selective calling capability, ensuring instant communications with ships day and night.
<p>Ashdod port) Haifa port) Ashkelon port)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continuous watch on VHF channel 16. Range about 30 miles.