



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

10th Meeting of the Focal Points of the Regional
Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre
for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC)

REMPEC/WG.32/WP.1
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Agenda Item 7

**PROPOSAL REGARDING THE WORK PLAN AND IMPLEMENTATION TIMETABLE
OF THE DRAFT MEDITERRANEAN STRATEGY ON SHIPS' BALLAST WATER MANAGEMENT
AND INVASIVE SPECIES**

Note by the Secretariat

SUMMARY

Executive Summary: This document contains the proposal of the Secretariat to amend Annex I of the draft Mediterranean Strategy on Ships' Ballast Water Management and Invasive Species.

Action to be taken: Paragraph 4.

Related documents: REMPEC/WG.32/7, REMPEC/WG.31/8.

1. In the framework of the GloBallast Partnerships project implemented in the Mediterranean region, the Regional Task Force (RTF) agreed on a draft Mediterranean Strategy on Ships' Ballast Water Management and Invasive Species during its second meeting in June 2010 in Istanbul (Turkey). REMPEC Focal Points have been invited to endorse the Draft Strategy and recommend its adoption by the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention.

2. In relation to its Action Plan, the Strategy includes in its Annex I a Work Plan and Implementation Timetable which schedules actions between 2010 and 2015. Considering that the next meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention will be held in late 2011 and in view of the possible adoption of the draft Strategy, the Secretariat proposes to amend the Implementation Timetable in order for the deadlines to be more realistic. If so accepted by the Meeting, Annex I of this document REMPEC/WG.32/WP.1 would replace Annex I of the draft Mediterranean Strategy.

3. The changes suggested include a shift of the activities scheduled in 2010 towards 2011 and beyond. As a consequence, the column 2010 has been deleted in the proposed timetable. It should be noted that these minor amendments do not change the substance of the actions to be implemented and only aim at providing a realistic and achievable implementation timetable.

4. The Meeting of Focal Points is invited to:

- **Review and comment** on the proposed Work Plan and Implementation Timetable;
- **Agree** on the replacement of Annex I of the draft Mediterranean Strategy on Ships' Ballast Water Management and Invasive Species, before recommending its adoption by the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention.

Annex I

Mediterranean Strategy and Action Plan on Ships' Ballast Water Management and Invasive Species

Work Plan and Implementation Timetable

| Action Points | Activities | Year | | | | |
|---|---|------|------|------|------|------|
| | | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 |
| <p>1. Ratify the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments (BWM Convention).</p> | <p>a) Form a national policy working group to lead the process towards the ratification of the BWM Convention.</p> <p>b) Draft the instrument of ratification for adoption through the proper channels with the Government system.</p> <p>c) Develop national legislation including fines for violators, which will give effect to the BWM Convention once ratified, as well as secondary regulations and technical arrangements for its enforcement.</p> | ✓ | ✓ | | | |
| <p>2. Adopt harmonised arrangements for ballast water exchange in the Mediterranean region.</p> | <p>a) Adopt harmonized voluntary arrangements for ballast water exchange in the Mediterranean region.</p> <p>b) Notify all interested parties of the adoption of harmonized arrangements for ballast water exchange in the Mediterranean region through notices to shipping and instructions to surveyors.</p> | ✓ | | | | |

| Action Points | Activities | Year | | | | |
|---|--|------|------|------|------|------|
| | | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 |
| <p>3. Establish a solid compliance Monitoring and Enforcement (CME) system in the Mediterranean region.</p> | <p>a) Adapt existing Port State Control & CME systems to integrate the harmonized BWM CME procedures.</p> <p>b) Establish and maintain a regional communication system possibly within a clearing house mechanism (CHM), to allow exchange of experience and tracking of violations utilizing existing control bodies such as the Paris MoU on Port State control and the Mediterranean MoU on Port state control.</p> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| <p>4. Establish a survey, biological monitoring and risk assessment system for Mediterranean ports.</p> | <p>a) Develop a regionally standardised biological sampling and monitoring protocol for use of Contracting Parties in building the necessary biological and environmental databases to support the IAS management objectives.</p> <p>b) Collaborate, preferably following sub-regional approaches where relevant, on biological survey and monitoring activities, including to promote and ensure sharing of technical capacity, resources and results.</p> <p>c) Seek institutional support at the national level for port biological surveys and monitoring, as part of the national strategy for ballast water and IAS management.</p> <p>d) Adapt and use the regional CHM for sharing of data related to port surveys and ongoing biological monitoring.</p> <p>e) Produce a regional-level risk assessment based on the information made available through biological surveys, as well as the shipping movement and ballast water discharge databases.</p> | | ✓ | ✓ | | |

| Action Points | Activities | Year | | | | |
|---|--|------|------|------|------|------|
| | | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 |
| 5. Enhance expertise; facilitate knowledge transfer and capacity building in the Mediterranean region. | a) Investigate the possibility of including training programmes and other capacity-building activities in the regular programme of work of the relevant regional activity Centres of MAP. | ✓ | ✓ | | | |
| | b) Seek and secure support, individually or through REMPEC, from the IMO Technical Cooperation division, in support of activities of the Strategy and Action Plan. | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| | c) Disseminate protocols and tools for standardization of technical approaches to regional and national activities. | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| | d) Countries with specific expertise on ballast water management related activities help organize national, sub-regional or regional training sessions. | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| | e) Replicate such training on a national level through the establishment of a national training programme on ballast water management activities. | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 6. Enhance public awareness on ships' ballast water and invasive aquatic species issues. | a) Use IMO Globallast Public awareness materials and translated these to local languages for dissemination at national level. | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| | b) Carry out national seminars and workshops to raise awareness about the issue among various stakeholders. | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| | c) Develop local case studies that may be used effectively for awareness and leveraging support within the Mediterranean region and its sub-regions. | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |

| Action Points | Activities | Year | | | | |
|--|--|------|------|------|------|------|
| | | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 |
| <p>7. Set-up a web-based Mediterranean mechanism for exchanging information.</p> | <p>a) Explore possible options and functionalities of the system and decide upon the body responsible for coordinating the development of the web-based Regional Information System.</p> <p>b) Set-up a Steering Committee for this project.</p> <p>c) Explore possible options and decide upon the body responsible for hosting and maintaining the web-based Regional Information System.</p> <p>d) Have the Regional Information System operational.</p> | ✓ | ✓ | | | |
| <p>8. Incorporate the Action Plan evaluation within the Barcelona Convention reporting system and procedure.</p> | <p>a) Mandate REMPEC to coordinate and assist with the implementation of the Action Plan in the region, in collaboration with the Regional Activity Centre for specially Protected Areas (RAC/SPA) where relevant.</p> <p>b) REMPEC to inform the Meeting of Focal Points, which takes place every two years, on the status of implementation of the Action Plan, for subsequent transmission to the Ordinary Meetings of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention.</p> <p>c) Forward to REMPEC the necessary information with the purpose of reviewing and evaluating the ongoing relevance and overall effectiveness of on national-based activities carried out under the Action Plan.</p> | ✓ | | | | |
| | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |