



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

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Agenda Item 4

DRAFT OFFSHORE ACTION PLAN

**Note by the Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre
for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC)**

SUMMARY

Executive Summary: This document proposes the first version of the Draft Offshore Protocol Action.

Action to be taken: *As indicated under each agenda item.*

Related documents: REMPEC/WG.34/19/Rev.1

Background

The 17th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention in 2012 held in Paris, France between 8 and 10 February 2012 decided to embark on an Action plan with a view to facilitating the effective implementation of the Offshore Protocol (Decision IG 20.12).

Based in the Decision IG 20.12, the Secretariat of the United National Environment Programme – Mediterranean Action Plan (UNEP/MAP) included a number of activities aimed at supporting the drafting of the Action Plan in the programme of the Ecosystem Approach for the Management of Human Activities in the Mediterranean (EcAp) funded by the European Union.

According to the Decision IG.20/12, UNEP/MAP Secretariat was requested to “*Establish an ad hoc working group coordinated by REMPEC composed of representatives of the Contracting Parties and observers from representatives of the concerned industries, relevant international organizations and MAP partners*”. At the time of drafting this document 11 Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention, namely Algeria, Croatia, Cyprus, European commission, France, Greece, Israel, Italy, Morocco, Spain, and Turkey nominated their Offshore Protocol Focal Point.

UNEP/MAP with the support of the Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC) organized the 1st Offshore Protocol Working Group Meeting held in Valletta, Malta on the 13 and 14 June 2013. The meeting benefited from the experience of representatives from the European Commission Directorate General Environment, the OSPAR Commission, the United Kingdom Health Safety Executive (HSE), the Italian Ministry of Economic Development, the International Association of Oil and Gas Producers (OGP), Det Norske Veritas (DNV), Noble Energy International Limited and Mabruk Oil Operations; and from the experience gained by the Government of Cyprus and Israel, first countries in the region having applied the obligations defined under the Offshore Protocol, in their national authorization procedure.

The same decision calls for “*an in depth assessment and stock taking analysis of the existing practical measures in place in the Mediterranean countries with regard to Offshore activities*” to be conducted. REMPEC requested all Mediterranean Coastal States to fill-in the questionnaire in view of their analysis. A consultant firm was recruited by UNEP/MAP to take stock of the existing regulatory framework among the Contracting Parties mainly through the analysis of the responses in questionnaires provided to Competent Authorities (i.e., the official organization that has the legally delegated or invested authority, capacity, or power to perform a designated function) of the Contracting Parties, the online reports of the Contracting Parties under the Barcelona Convention Reporting System (BCRS) and a study prepared by Milieu Ltd. for the Director General (DG) Environment of the European Commission (EC study)¹.

In accordance with Article 23 of the Offshore Protocol, and the Decision IG 20.12, the same consultancy firm was requested to identify existing international rules, standards, and recommended practices and procedures relevant to the implementation of the Offshore Protocol. The analysis focused on the main activities and installations listed in the Protocol. Whenever a topic addressed under the Offshore Protocol was also addressed by a relevant international instrument, this instrument was identified to establish consistency between the Protocol and the regional and international instruments in place.

Both the analysis of existing practical measures in place in the Mediterranean countries with regard to offshore activities and the study on best international practices were presented in the document WG.34.19 - Study on the International Best Practices-Rev1 at the Workshop on the Regional Response Capacity and Coordination to Major Oil Spill in the Mediterranean Sea (MEDEXPOL 2013) held in Athens, Greece, between 10 and 12 December 2013.

According to the Decision IG.21/8 of the 18th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention (Istanbul, Turkey, 3-6 December 2013), “the Secretariat and the ad hoc Working Group was requested to continue the necessary work with a view to achieve the drafting of the Offshore Protocol Action Plan by the end of 2014”.

The draft Action Plan in **Annex** has been prepared by the Secretariat taking into account the finds of the studies and the recommendations made by the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention.

¹ EC study: “Safety of offshore exploration and exploitation activities in the Mediterranean: creating synergies between the forthcoming EU Regulation and the Protocol to the Barcelona Convention.”
<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/marine/international-cooperation-regional-sea-conventions/barcelona-convention/pdf/Final%20Report%20Offshore%20Safety%20Barcelona%20Protocol%20.pdf> (last accessed Nov. 15, 2013)

Rationale for the Action Plan

The exploration and exploitation of the continental shelf and the seabed and its subsoil are considerably increasing in the Mediterranean Region and raise concerns of multi-nature, in particular with regards to its potential environment impact. Recent incidents resulting from offshore operations raised awareness on the risk of significant accidents which could have long term adverse consequences for the fragile ecosystems and biodiversity of the Mediterranean Sea due to its enclosed nature and special hydrodynamics as well as negative consequences on the economies of the Mediterranean Countries especially for tourism and fisheries. Furthermore, corrective measures are urgently required to face the lack of knowledge and experience of Mediterranean coastal States newly embarked on offshore activities, which involve highly specialised techniques and skills required to ensure the safety of the personnel and the fitness of the installation, all along the life cycle of offshore operations from the exploration phase, through the development and production phase to the abandonment of the installation.

The recent entry into force in 2011 of the Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea Against Pollution Resulting from Exploration and Exploitation of the Continental Shelf and the Seabed and its Subsoil (hereinafter the "Offshore Protocol") gives a unique opportunity to address these challenges in a coherent manner at the regional level and therefore the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention have decided by Decision IG 20.12² adopted by their 17th Ordinary Meeting in 2012 to embark on an Action Plan with a view to facilitating the effective implementation of the Offshore Protocol.

Scope of the Action Plan

Compared to similar other regional instruments and in particular, the North East Atlantic regional instrument, the Offshore Protocol to the Barcelona Convention is a more developed instrument addressing not only the direct effect of the concerned activities on the marine environment but also safety concerns and human elements related to these activities. For example, whereas Annex III to the OSPAR Convention deals in ten articles with the effects of these activities on the marine environment, the Offshore Protocol to the Barcelona Convention contains 32 Articles and 7 Annexes, sometimes very comprehensive.

Therefore, and as requested by the 18th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention in 2013, there is a need to distinguish what are the major issues which need to be addressed at regional level, and which should form the core of the Action Plan

It is also acknowledged that the Action Plan should not address issues which, although forming part of the Offshore Protocol, are already addressed by relevant international instruments or recognized practices. In this regard, the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL) is the main international convention concerning prevention of pollution of the marine environment by ships from operational or accidental causes. Under the definition of MARPOL Article 2, a *Ship* is defined as "*a vessel of any type whatsoever operating in the marine environment and includes hydrofoil boats, air-cushion vehicles, submersibles, floating craft and fixed or floating platforms*".

Therefore, the following activities and installations listed in Article 1 of the Offshore Protocol shall be regulated according to the requirements listed under the relevant MARPOL Annexes identified below:

- **Discharge and disposal machinery oil:** MARPOL Annex I
- **Treatment and discharge of sewage:** MARPOL Annex IV
- **Disposal and discharge of garbage:** MARPOL Annex V
- **Reception facilities:** MARPOL Annexes I, II, IV, V, and VI; and
- **Ship storage:** MARPOL Annex I

As far as the **transportation to shore by loading of ships**, the transportation shall be in conformity with the international regulations on ship construction and navigation, whilst the requirement for the loading of ships shall not differ from the loading of ships in other shoreline installations (e.g. shore oil handling facilities).

² Decision IG.20/12 of the 17th Meeting of the Contracting Parties, 2012: "Action Plan to implement the Protocol of the Barcelona Convention concerning the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea Against Pollution Resulting from Exploration and Exploitation of the Continental Shelf and the Seabed and its Subsoil".

Questions to be addressed during the ad hoc Working Group Meeting

1- Shall the Action Plan set specific objectives regarding liability and compensation?

Although there is a clear invitation by the Protocol for the Contracting Parties to agree on a specific regional liability and compensation regime under the Offshore Protocol, the issue was briefly addressed during the Second Meeting of the ad hoc Working Group which took place back to back to MEDEXPOL 2013, (Athens Greece, 10-12 December 2013) Taking into account the on-going discussion at the International Maritime Organization (IMO) on matters concerning liability and compensation for oil pollution damage resulting from offshore exploration and exploitation activities (*vide* [REMPEC/WG.34/INF.4](#)), and with the understanding that no consensus has yet been reached at the international level to establish a global compensation regime, the Contracting Parties underlined the risk of having various regional approaches leading to possible discrepancies related to the liability compensation rules. At the same Meeting, it was further suggested that the Mediterranean coastal States which are represented at the IMO Council should promote together the idea of including this topic in the Strategic Action Plan of the IMO. In this context, the liability and compensation for oil pollution damage resulting from offshore exploration and exploitation activities is not included in the scope of the present Action Plan. At this stage, *it is therefore recommended not to consider the issue of liability and compensation as a priority to be included in the Action Plan.*

2- Amendments to the Offshore Protocol and its Annexes.

It is acknowledged that several provisions of the Offshore Protocol and in particular in the Annexes adopted in 1994 are clearly outdated. The question of amending these provisions shall be considered at an early stage taking into account the limited number of countries who have to date ratified the Offshore Protocol. Once approved, the amendments will enter into force for each acceding new Contracting Party.

According to Article 23.4 on Annexes and Amendments to Annexes and the related Article 22 on Amendment of the Convention or Protocols, any Contracting Party to the Protocol can propose amendments to the Protocol or its Annexes to be adopted by a three-fourths majority vote of the Contracting Parties to the Protocol.

Considering the current limited number of Contracting Parties to the Protocol (i.e. Albania, Cyprus, European Union, Libya, Morocco, Syria, and Tunisia), an early review of the Protocol and its Annexes is suggested and, if agreed, such a review could be included in this Action Plan.

Such a review primarily concerns the Annexes requiring amendments following a thorough review exercise by the Contracting Parties with the support of the Secretariat.

Means of implementation

Full and effective implementation of the Action Plan will depend on four factors:

- the Contracting Parties contribution to the implementation of the Action Plan;
- the capacity of the Secretariat to respond to the demands of Contracting Parties in the co-ordination and organization of activities; and
- adequate financial resources.

The political willingness of Contracting Parties to take action in the field of protection of the Mediterranean Sea against pollution resulting from exploration and exploitation of the continental shelf and the seabed and its subsoil has already been demonstrated by the entry into force of the Offshore Protocol on 24 March 2011. However, it is evident that further concrete action is necessary in order to give meaningful effect to the political and legal commitments which the signature of the Protocol implies. The development of Regional Standards and Guidelines being one of the main goals of this Action Plan, it is expected, as it is the case in other regional agreements, that the existing expertise available in the countries will be offered on a voluntary basis to actively lead and support the development of such Standards and Guidelines, otherwise funds shall be allocated to recruit consultants with the risk of the Contracting Parties losing the ownership of the process.

Upon approval of the main topics covered by the Action Plan, collaboration with other regional agreements which are more advanced on the matter shall be envisaged in view of possibly transposing their best practices in the Mediterranean Region and also to take into account the necessary consistency in the approach that should exist for countries belonging to more than one regional sea convention.

National arrangements

For the purpose of implementing the Action Plan, the Contracting Parties shall adopt the necessary appropriate legislation and establish adequate institutional arrangements in particular for authorizations, inspections and sanctions to ensure the efficient management of offshore activities and the prevention of pollution. They shall regularly report on their progress in the implementation of the Action Plan as well as under direct obligations of the Protocol.

To this aim the Contracting Parties shall ensure:

- (a) Institutional coordination, where necessary, among the relevant national bodies and relevant regional organisations and programmes, in order to avoid sectorial approaches; and
- (b) Close coordination between national, local and regional authorities in the field of offshore activities.

The Contracting Parties shall also make every effort to ensure that the measures provided for in the Action Plan are implemented in a coherent manner with the common aim to develop and implement an adequate system for the management of offshore activities. Various actors shall be involved in the development and implementation of agreed measures as provided for in the Specific Objective 2 of the Action Plan.

**ANNEX DRAFT MEDITERRANEAN OFFSHORE ACTION PLAN IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE
PROTOCOL FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA AGAINST POLLUTION
RESULTING FROM EXPLORATION AND EXPLOITATION OF THE CONTINENTAL SHELF AND
THE SEABED AND ITS SUBSOIL (OFFSHORE PROTOCOL)**

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PART I – INTRODUCTION

I.1 Secretariat and its Components

Considering the range of expertise required for the implementation of the Action Plan, the Secretariat of the Barcelona Convention, represented by the United Nations Environment Programme – Mediterranean Action Plan **Secretariat** will coordinate the technical support from the relevant Regional Activity Centres (the **Components**) according to their mandates.

The role of the Secretariat and its Components will be primarily one of assistance to the Contracting Parties in enhancing their national capacities and in facilitating the means for regional or sub-regional co-operation.

It is envisaged that there may be several areas of activity within the Specific objectives of the Action Plan which will require a synergy between various Components of the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) as well as with other related regional organizations or agreements (e.g. OSPAR Offshore Industry Committee, and the European Union Offshore Oil and Gas Authorities Group (EUOAG)). Where necessary, the work of the Secretariat should create linkages with the work of such other entities.

I.2. Geographical coverage

The area to which the Mediterranean Offshore Action Plan in the Framework of the Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea Against Pollution Resulting from Exploration and Exploitation of the Continental Shelf and the Seabed and its Subsoil (**the Action Plan**) applies is the area defined in Article 2 of the Offshore Protocol.

I.3. Preservation of rights

The provisions of this Action Plan shall be without prejudice to stricter provisions regulating the management of offshore activities contained in other existing or future national, regional or international instruments or programmes, when considering existing best practices for the development of standards for the Mediterranean region.

I.5. Principles

In implementing the Action Plan, the Contracting Parties shall be guided by the following principles:

- (a) *Integration Principle* by virtue of which offshore activities management under the Offshore Protocol shall be an integral part of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development, the Ecosystem Approach (the **EcAp**), other relevant strategies including regional strategies of the Mediterranean Action Plan and shall not conflict with applicable domestic regulations;
- (b) *Prevention principle* by virtue of which any offshore activities management measure should aim at addressing the prevention of any form of pollution resulting from offshore activities;
- (c) *Precautionary principle* by virtue of which where there are threats of serious or irreversible damage, lack of full scientific certainty shall not be used as a reason for postponing cost-effective measures to prevent environmental degradation;
- (d) *Polluter-pays principle* by virtue of which the costs of pollution prevention, control and reduction measures are to be borne by the polluter, with due regard to the public interest;
- (e) *Ecosystem-based approach* by virtue of which the cumulative effects of offshore activities on air, marine and coastal ecosystem services, habitats and species with other contaminants and substances that are present in the environment should be fully taken into account;
- (f) *The principle of public participation and stakeholder involvement*; and
- (g) *Sustainable Production and Consumption principle* by virtue of which current unsustainable patterns of consumption and production must be transformed to sustainable ones that decouple human development from environmental degradation.

PART II – OBJECTIVES

II.1. Overall Objectives

The overall objectives of the Action Plan are to:

- (a) Prevent, abate, combat and control pollution in the Mediterranean Region resulting from offshore activities;
- (b) Reduce to the minimum pollution in the Mediterranean Region resulting from offshore activities and its impact on public health, operators' personnel health and safety, ecosystem services, habitats, endangered species, and to ensure the safety of the navigation; and
- (c) Achieve that the management of offshore activities in the Mediterranean is performed in accordance with accepted international standards and approaches and in harmony with programmes and measures applied in other seas.

II.2. General Objectives

The Action Plan aims at defining measures which, if applied at regional level and by each Contracting Party within their jurisdiction will ensure the safety of offshore activities and reduce their potential impact on the marine environment and its ecosystem.

These measures shall aim at regional level:

- Setting-up a **governance framework** to support the implementation of the Action Plan and the adoption, enforcement and monitoring of regional standards, procedures and rules;
- Defining commonly agreed **regional offshore standards and guidelines** to be integrated and used at national level; and
- Develop in conformity with EcAp and its relevant indicators a regional commonly agreed **reporting and monitoring** for the Action Plan.

Part II.3 describes the specific objectives which, if achieved, will meet the general objectives as set out above. For each specific objective certain goals are proposed which will also serve as criteria for indicating the success (or otherwise) of Contracting Parties in meeting the objectives.

The implementation goals are set out in tabular form in **Appendix 1**. With the understanding that not all goals can be achieved immediately, a tentative timetable for implementation of the Action Plan is set out in **Appendix 2**. Whilst the Action Plan proposes measures to be implemented in the next ten (10) years, certain measures identified in **Appendix 2** can be applied prior to the adoption of the Action Plan by the 19th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention to be held in 2015.

II.3. Specific Objectives

II.3.1 GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK

Specific objective 1: To ratify the Offshore Protocol

In order that there is a comprehensive legal basis for the exploration and exploitation of the continental shelf and the seabed and its subsoil in the Mediterranean Sea, it is important that Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention take the necessary action to ensure that the Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea Against Pollution Resulting from Exploration and Exploitation of the Continental Shelf and the Seabed and its Subsoil (the **Offshore Protocol**) is ratified and implemented nationally.

The Contracting Parties agree:

- a) to ratify the Offshore Protocol by 2017, to ensure its transposition into national law, and to cooperate through UNEP/MAP to ensure full compliance with its provisions;¹

To request the Secretariat:

- a) to provide Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention, which so request, with advice and assistance in order to meet the deadline set forth in sub-paragraph (a) above.

¹ Mediterranean coastal States shall consider the ratification of the Offshore Protocol and the transposition of its provisions into national law in accordance with domestic relevant practices and legislation.

Specific objective 2: To designate Contracting Parties' Representatives to participate to the regional governing bodies

At the 18th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention, Contracting Parties approved the establishment of the Barcelona Convention Offshore Oil and Gas Group (BARCO OFOG) and adopted its terms of reference (Decision IG.21/8).

Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention, with the support of the relevant UNEP/MAP Components will *inter alia* provide, through the OFOG Group and Sub-Groups, technical support and guidance as detailed in section II.3.2, and make recommendations to the Meetings of the Parties to the Offshore Protocol to accomplish its functions as stipulated in Article 30.2 of the Offshore Protocol, and further detailed in Decision IG.21/8.

The OFOG Group is primarily composed of representatives of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention. In view of the range of expertise required for the various topics covered by the Protocol, several OFOG Sub-Groups could be set-up, as need be. To initiate the implementation of the Action Plan and ensure without delay that the measures and standards necessary to effectively implement the Action Plan are undertaken and developed, the following OFOG Sub-Groups will be established:

- **OFOG Sub-Group on Environment Protection** dealing with following issues:
 - Offshore monitoring procedures and programme;
 - Environment impact assessment;
 - Use and discharge of harmful or noxious substances and material;
 - Disposal of oil and oily mixtures and the use and disposal drilling fluids and cutting; and
 - Precautions for Specially Protected Areas (SPA).
- **OFOG Sub-Group on Offshore Installations** in charge of the following matters:
 - Removal plan; and
 - Safety measures.
- **OFOG Sub-Group on Human Elements** responsible for:
 - Capacity building of national officers;
 - Training and certification of operators professionals and crew; and
 - Safety of professionals and crew.

These Sub-Groups will focus on technical and practical aspects of the Offshore Protocol Action Plan.

For the effective implementation of the Action Plan, the Contracting Parties shall ensure appropriate involvement of various stakeholders involving national competent authorities, civil society, private sector, operators, NGOs and other stakeholders as appropriate to implement the measures provided for in the Action Plan and other measures as appropriate.

The Contracting Parties agree:

- a) to nominate the National Offshore Focal Point designated by the MAP Focal Point to coordinate at national level activities carried out in the framework of the Action Plan and the OFOG Group by 2015;
- b) to designate, as required, through their National Offshore Focal Point, the appropriate national entities and/or officials as contact points for each OFOG Sub-Group by 2015;
- c) to take the leadership, on a voluntary basis, of the established Sub-Groups to coordinate with the support of the Secretariat the work assigned to the Sub-Groups by 2015; and
- d) to communicate to the Secretariat the contact details of the nominated National Offshore Focal Point and the OFOG Sub-Group Focal Point by 2015.

To request the Secretariat [UNEP/MAP]:

- a) to encourage the participation of the industry to invest in safety measures and in the mitigation of environment pollution, to implement best practices according to national, regional and international standards, and to ensure responsible production by contributing financially and technically to the implementation of the Offshore Protocol and its Action Plan, and invite them to participate as observers to the OFOG Sub-Groups;

- b) to enhance public awareness through the contribution of IGOs and NGOs with a relevant mandate to the topics discussed in the various OFOG Sub-Groups to participate as observers and ensure an open and transparent process through public consultations;
- c) to establish institutional cooperation with various relevant regional and global institutions, initiatives and agreements (e.g. OSPAR's Offshore Industry Committee (OIC), European Union Offshore Oil and Gas Authorities Group (EUOAG)) as soon as possible but preferably by 2017;
- d) to publish by 2016 and keep up to date on a dedicated website the composition of the OFOG Group and Sub-Groups;
- e) To keep updated the list of the National Offshore Focal Points and OFOG Sub-Group Focal Points;
- f) to define by 2016 roles and responsibilities of UNEP/MAP Components from a leading and technical point of view, to be adopted by the Contracting Parties to facilitate the implementation of the Action Plan; and
- g) to identify by 2015, the required means including the possible creation of a five year Project Post or the secondment of national officers to ensure the implementation of the Action Plan and the support of the relevant UNEP/MAP Components. A draft estimation of the required means is found in **Appendix 3**.

Specific objective 3: To establish a technical cooperation and capacity building programme

According to Article 24 of the Offshore Protocol the Parties shall, directly or with the assistance of competent regional or other international organizations, cooperate with a view to formulating and, as far as possible, implementing programmes of assistance to developing countries. In this regard and with the view to facilitate the implementation of the Action Plan,

The Contracting Parties agree:

- a) by 2015 on the technical cooperation and capacity programme as set in **Appendix 4**.

To request the Secretariat:

- a) to include the technical cooperation and capacity programme in the five year programme of activities of UNEP/MAP and its relevant Components by 2015 and in the biennium programme of work;
- b) to propose by 2015 and every two years thereafter, the corresponding budget to be adopted by the Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention; and
- c) to identify donors to secure funds required for the implementation of the technical cooperation and capacity programme.

Specific objective 4: To establish financial rules related to the regulation of regional offshore activities

The 18th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention in 2013 decided that the BARCO OFOG should be financed through extra budgetary resources and requested the Secretariat to identify international bodies that might provide specific sources of financing to assist Mediterranean coastal States in carrying out the obligations arising from the Offshore Protocol. The Meeting further invited the relevant oil and gas offshore industry to assist the Barcelona Convention Offshore Oil and Gas Group (BARCO OFOG), through technical support and financial contributions for the implementation of the program of work that may result from the Offshore Protocol Action Plan. In this regards,

The Contracting Parties agree:

- a) to establish rules on a reasonable levy on operators, when granting authorization, aimed at supporting the implementation of the Action Plan, in particular its provisions related to the OFOG Group, technical cooperation, capacity building and monitoring activities as soon as possible and preferably by 2017; and

To request the Secretariat:

- a) to establish an Offshore Action Plan fund structure managed by a Financial Committee composed of Contracting Parties, oil and gas industry representatives, and UNEP/MAP as soon as possible and preferably by 2017; and
- b) to identify additional donors to secure funds for the implementation of the Action Plan.

Specific objective 5: To promote access to information and public participation in decision-making

According to the Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration adopted at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in 1992, "Environmental issues are best handled with the participation of all concerned citizens, at the relevant level. At the national level, each individual shall have appropriate access to information concerning the environment that is held by public authorities, including information on hazardous materials and activities in their communities, and the opportunity to participate in decision-making processes. States shall facilitate and encourage public awareness and participation by making information widely available. Effective access to judicial and administrative proceedings, including redress and remedy, shall be provided."

With a view to meeting the specific objective of promoting access to information and public participation in decision-making,

The Contracting Parties agree:

- a) to report to the Secretariat by 2017 and every two years thereafter, relevant information on the offshore installations within their jurisdiction including, when appropriate, information on their disposal for inclusion in the inventory to be maintained by the Secretariat; and
- b) to report to the Secretariat by 2017 and every two years thereafter, discharges, spills and emissions from offshore oil and gas installations data in accordance with the monitoring programme to be defined by the relevant OFOG Sub-Group.

To request the Secretariat:

- a) to assess by 2015 the cost of an online regional system, to develop it by 2016 and maintain it thereafter for the purpose of public information sharing;
- b) to publish by 2017 and every two years thereafter and keep up to date on a dedicated website the inventory of installations as well as the discharges, spills and emissions from offshore oil and gas installations data submitted by the Contracting Parties; and
- c) to consolidate in a report by 2017 and every two years thereafter, the discharges, spills and emissions from offshore oil and gas installations data submitted by the Contracting Parties.

Specific objective 6: To enhance the regional transfer of technology

The Offshore Protocol emphasizes the need for cooperation and exchange of information concerning research and development (R&D) of new technologies. In order to make the results of R&D activities undertaken in the Mediterranean region better known, the Secretariat shall endeavour to encourage the participation of regional research institutions, scientific project leaders and industry in relevant events. The Secretariat shall also facilitate, through the network of its Focal Points, the exchange of these results amongst the Contracting Parties. In addition, the Secretariat might indicate to its Focal Points the potential fields that call for further R&D in order to encourage more active participation and contribution of the relevant Mediterranean institutions in global efforts in this field. In this regard, a list of potential research topics is presented in **Appendix 5** to this document.

With a view to meeting the specific objective of promoting the participation of the relevant Mediterranean institutions in R&D activities and to facilitate transfer of technology within the region,

The Contracting Parties agree:

- a) to encourage their respective scientific and technical institutions, as well as the industry, to actively participate in R&D activities and programmes related to prevention, response and monitoring of pollution from offshore activities;
- b) to request their respective national institutions and industry to present the results of their R&D activities and programmes in international fora; and
- c) to provide information to the Secretariat on ongoing RD activities, research needs.

To request the Secretariat:

- a) to assist identifying fields of research in which there is a need for enhancement of the state-of-the-art of offshore pollution prevention, response and monitoring technologies and techniques;
- b) to facilitate dissemination and exchange of results of national R&D activities and programmes within and outside the Mediterranean region; and
- c) to facilitate the participation of national and regional research institutions and industry in the relevant international fora with a view to making better known the results of R&D activities undertaken in the Mediterranean region.

II.3.2 REGIONAL OFFSHORE STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES

In accordance with the specific objective 3 and Article 23 of the Offshore Protocol, as the core substance of the Offshore Protocol aims at establishing common standards and guidelines to harmonize regional practices in the Mediterranean region, Contracting Parties will consider relevant existing standards and guidelines in this field (*vide* REMPEC/WG.34/19/Rev.1).

Specific objective 7: To develop and adopt regional offshore standards

The Contracting Parties agree:

- a) to develop or adapt to the Mediterranean context existing EIA regional standards taking into consideration requirements referred in Annex IV and other best practices by 2017;
- b) to formulate and adopt common standards on the use and discharge of harmful or noxious substances and material, defining *inter alia* limits and prohibitions at regional level by 2019;
- c) to review, as required, Annex I, II and III and differentiate which chemicals should be covered and not covered by such standards and under which conditions by 2019;
- d) to formulate and adopt common standards on the disposal of oil and oily mixtures and on the use and disposal of drilling fluids and cutting, and review the limits set in Article 10 and the prescriptions referred in Annex V of the Protocol by 2017;
- e) to commonly agree on and adopt the method to be used to analyse the oil content by 2017;
- f) to follow procedures for contingency planning, notification of accidental spills and transboundary pollution as set under the Protocol concerning Co-operation in Preventing Pollution from Ships and, in Cases of Emergency, Combating Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea;
- g) to define and adopt special restrictions or conditions for Specially Protected Areas by 2017;
- h) to commonly agree on and adopt criteria, rules and procedures for the removal of installations and the related financial security by 2021;
- i) to commonly agree on and adopt criteria, rules and procedures for safety measures including health and safety requirements by 2023; and
- j) [to commonly agree on and adopt criteria, rules and procedures for role/responsibility and qualification of professionals and crews by 2023.]

To request the Secretariat:

- a) to designate by 2015 relevant Components and coordinate their support to the relevant OFOG Sub-Groups for the development of the above common standards.

Specific objective 8: To develop and adopt regional offshore guidelines

With a view to facilitate the development and implementation of the appropriate policy, legal instruments and institutional arrangements, in accordance with the adopted regional offshore standards,

The Contracting Parties agree to develop regional guidelines on:

- a) Environment Impact Assessment by 2017;
- b) Use and discharge of harmful or noxious substances and material by 2019;
- c) Disposal of oil and oily mixtures and the use and disposal drilling fluids and cutting and analytical measurement by 2017;
- d) Removal of installations and the related financial security by 2021;
- e) Installation safety measures including health and safety requirements by 2023;
- f) Role/responsibility and qualification of professionals and crews by 2023; and
- g) Authorization requirements based on the above mentioned Standards by 2024

The Contracting Parties further agree:

- h) to contribute through their OPRC Focal Points to the revision of the Section II of the Manual on Oil Pollution – Contingency Planning by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) OPRC Technical Group scheduled for 2015 which will include new information related to contingency planning for offshore units, sea ports and oil handling facilities.

To request the Secretariat:

- a) to designate by 2015 the relevant MAP Components and coordinate their support to the relevant OFOG Sub-Groups for the development of the above common guidelines.

II.3.3 REGIONAL OFFSHORE MONITORING PROGRAMME

Specific objective 9: To establish regional offshore monitoring procedures and programmes

Ecosystem approach (EcAp) is the overarching principle of the Barcelona Convention, aiming to achieve good environmental status of the Mediterranean by 2020 and ensuring adequate monitoring and assessment of the status on a cyclical basis.

According to Decision IG 20/4 "Implementing the MAP ecosystem approach roadmap: Mediterranean Ecological and Operational Objectives, Indicators and Timetable for implementing the ecosystem approach roadmap adopted by the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention" (COP17, 2012), and according to Decision 21/3 on the Ecosystem Approach including adopting definitions of Good Environmental Status and Targets, for the purposes of this Action Plan, in compliance with the monitoring obligations under Article 12 of the Barcelona Convention and Article 19 of the Offshore Protocol,

The Contracting Parties agree:

- a) To define by 2017, building inter alia on the relevant work in the ecosystem approach related to indicator 9.3.1 on occurrence, origin (where possible, extent of significant acute pollution events (e.g. slicks from oil, oil products and hazardous substances) and their impact on biota affected by this pollution), as described in Decision IG 21/3, the data to be collected and assessed (e.g. granted authorizations, type of installation, the number of installations with emission and discharges, the use and discharge of drilling fluids and cuttings, discharges of oil in produced water, chemicals used and discharged offshore, accidental spill of oil and chemicals and emissions to air) using or adapting to the Mediterranean context existing regional monitoring procedures and programme;
- b) To report by 2017 and every two years thereafter to the Secretariat results of the national offshore monitoring programme and provide the agreed data; and
- c) [To report to the secretariat in the framework of the monitoring programme deviation from the initial EIA;].

To request the Secretariat:

- a) to coordinate the development/adoption of Mediterranean Monitoring Procedures and Programmes between 2016 and 2017 for the above, building on the relevant work undertaken in the Monitoring Correspondence Groups, that take place between 2014-2015 in the EcAp process in line with Decision 21/3; to define cost by 2016, develop by 2017 and manage the Mediterranean Offshore Reporting and Monitoring System (e.g. Regional Data Bank on Offshore activities through the Barcelona Convention Reporting System or other systems defined by the Contracting Parties); and to produce, disseminate and publish by 2017 and every two years thereafter a report on Discharges, Spills and Emissions from Offshore Oil and Gas Installations, based on data submitted by countries.

PART III – REPORTING

Specific objective 10: To report on the implementation of the Action Plan

In conformity with Article 26 of the Barcelona Convention and Article 30 (2) of the Offshore Protocol,

The Contracting Parties agree:

- a) To report through the BARCO OFOG Group, on the implementation of this Action Plan, in particular on the effectiveness of the measures defined in this Action Plan and difficulties encountered by 2017 and every two years thereafter; and
- b) To review biennially the status of implementation of the Action Plan on the basis of the regional report prepared by the Secretariat in consultation with the BARCO OFOG Group.

To request the Secretariat:

- a) To draft Guidelines on the structure and content of the national report on the implementation of this Action Plan considering existing reporting procedures (e.g. Reporting under the Compliance Committee) to avoid duplication of reporting procedures, as well as a set of indicators, by 2016;
- b) To organise, subject to funds availability, the Meetings of the Parties to the Offshore Protocol; and
- c) To consolidate the report on the implementation of the Action Plan by 2017 and every two years thereafter for its submission to the Meetings of the Parties to the Offshore Protocol and the Meetings of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention.

APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Implementation goals

Appendix 2 – Tentative timetable for the implementation of the Action Plan

Appendix 3 – Draft estimation of required means for the implementation of the Action Plan

Appendix 4 – Technical cooperation and capacity programme

Appendix 5 – Potential research topics

MEDITERRANEAN OFFSHORE ACTION PLAN

Appendix 1: IMPLEMENTATION GOALS

A) Commitments of the Contracting Parties

Specific Objective	Goal (Success Criteria)
1. To ratify the Offshore Protocol	1.1. All Contracting Parties have ratified the Offshore Protocol
2. To designate Contracting Parties' Representatives to participate to the regional governing bodies	1.2. All National Offshore Focal Point [of countries having offshore oil and/or gas activities] have been designated by the MAP Focal Point to coordinate at national level activities carried out in the framework of the Action Plan and the OFOG Group 1.3. All National Offshore Focal Point [of countries having offshore oil and/or gas activities] have designated the appropriate national entities and/or officials as contact points for each OFOG Sub-Group 1.4. All established Sub-Groups are led by volunteer Contracting Party to coordinate with the support of the Secretariat the work assigned to the Sub-Groups. 1.5. All contact details of the nominated National Offshore Focal Point and the OFOG Sub-Group Focal Point are communicated to the Secretariat.
3. To establish a technical cooperation and capacity building programme	a) The technical cooperation and capacity programme as set in Appendix 3 have been approved.
4. To establish financial rules related to the regulation of regional offshore activities	a) Rules on reasonable levy on operators, when granting authorization, aimed at supporting the implementation of the Action Plan, in particular OFOG Group's, technical cooperation, capacity building and monitoring activities have been established.
5. To promote access to information and public participation in decision-making	a) Relevant information on the offshore installations within Contracting Parties's jurisdiction including, when appropriate, information on their disposal for inclusion in the inventory have reported to the Secretariat by July 2015 and are regularly updated every two years thereafter; and b) Discharges, spills and emissions from offshore oil and gas installations data in accordance with the monitoring programme defined by the relevant (e.g. OFOG Sub-Group or EcAp CORMON) have reported to the Secretariat and are regularly updated every two years thereafter.
6. To enhance the regional transfer of technology	a) Scientific and technical institutions, as well as the industry, are actively participating in R&D activities and programmes related to prevention, response and monitoring of pollution from offshore activities; b) Results of their R&D activities and programmes are regularly presented by national institutions and industry; and c) Information on ongoing R&D activities and research needs are provided to the Secretariat.

<p>7. To develop and adopt regional offshore standards</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Existing EIA regional standards taking into consideration requirements referred in Annex IV and other best practices have been developed or adapted to the Mediterranean context; b) Common standards on the use and discharge of harmful or noxious substances and material, defining <i>inter alia</i> limits and prohibitions at regional level have been adopted; c) Annex I, II and III have been reviewed and differentiation between chemicals to be covered and not covered by such standards has been defined; d) Common standards on the disposal of oil and oily mixtures and on the use and disposal of drilling fluids and cutting have been adopted and the limits set in Article 10 and the prescriptions referred in Annex V of the Protocol have been reviewed; e) The method to be used to analyze the oil content has been adopted; f) Procedures for contingency planning, notification of accidental spills and transboundary pollution as set under the Protocol concerning Co-operation in Preventing Pollution from Ships and, in Cases of Emergency, Combating Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea are adequately followed; g) Special restrictions or conditions for Specially Protected Areas have been adopted; h) Criteria, rules and procedures for the removal of installations and the related financial security have been adopted; i) Criteria, rules and procedures for safety measures including health and safety requirements have been adopted; and j) [Criteria, rules and procedures for role/responsibility and qualification of professionals and crews have been adopted.]
<p>8. To develop and adopt regional offshore guidelines</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Mediterranean Guidelines on Environment Impact Assessment have been adopted; b) Mediterranean Guidelines on Use and discharge of harmful or noxious substances and material have been adopted; c) Mediterranean Guidelines on Disposal of oil and oily mixtures and the use and disposal drilling fluids and cutting and analytical measurement have been adopted; d) Mediterranean Guidelines on Removal of installations and the related financial security have been adopted; e) Mediterranean Guidelines on Installation safety measures including health and safety requirements have been adopted; f) Mediterranean Guidelines on Role/responsibility and qualification of professionals and crews have been adopted; g) Mediterranean Guidelines on Authorization requirements have been adopted; and h) OPRC Focal Points have contributed to the revision of the Section II of the Manual on Oil Pollution – Contingency Planning by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) OPRC Technical Group scheduled in 2015 ensure that appropriate information related to contingency planning for offshore units, sea ports and oil handling facilities are integrated in the Manual.

<p>9. To establish regional offshore monitoring procedures and programme</p>	<p>a) The data to be collected and assessed (e.g. granted authorizations, type of installation, the number of installations with emission and discharges, the use and discharge of drilling fluids and cuttings, discharges of oil in produced water, chemicals used and discharged offshore, accidental spill of oil and chemicals and emissions to air); have been defined using or adapting to the Mediterranean context existing regional monitoring procedures and programme and building inter alia on the relevant work in the ecosystem approach related to indicator 9.3.1 on occurrence, origin (where possible, extent of significant acute pollution events (e.g. slicks from oil, oil products and hazardous substances) and their impact on biota affected by this pollution), as described in Decision IG 21/3</p> <p>b) Results of the national offshore monitoring programme and the related data are regularly reported to the Secretariat;</p> <p>c) [Deviation from the initial EIA and the related data are reported to the Secretariat in the framework of the monitoring programme;]</p> <p>.</p>
<p>10. To report on the implementation of the Action Plan</p>	<p>a) All BARCO OFOG Group report on the implementation of this Action Plan June 2017 and every two years thereafter;</p> <p>b) The status of implementation of the Action Plan on the basis of the regional report prepared by the Secretariat in consultation with the BARCO OFOG Group is reviewed every two years.</p> <p>c) The draft Guidelines on the structure and content of the national report on the implementation of this Action Plan considering existing reporting procedures (e.g. Reporting under the Compliance Committee) to avoid duplication of reporting procedures, as well as a set of indicators, is produced by the Secretariat by 2016;</p> <p>d) The Meetings of the Parties to the Offshore Protocol is organised every two years; and</p> <p>e) A consolidated report on the implementation of the Action Plan is submitted the Meetings of the Parties to the Offshore Protocol and the Meetings of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention.</p>

B) Requests addressed to the Secretariat and its Components

Specific Objective	Goal (Success Criteria)
1. To ratify the Offshore Protocol	a) Mediterranean coastal States, which so request, are provided with advice and assistance by the Secretariat.
2. To designate Contracting Parties representatives to participate to the regional governing bodies	a) The industry invests in safety measures and in the mitigation of environment pollution, implements best practices according to national, regional and international standards, ensures responsible production by contributing financially and technically to the implementation of the Offshore Protocol and its Action Plan, and participates as observers to the OFOG Sub-Groups; b) Awareness is enhanced through the contribution and participation of IGOs and NGOs in the OFOG Sub-Groups. Open and transparent process is made through public consultations; c) Institutional cooperation with various relevant regional and global institutions, initiatives and agreements ((e.g. OSPAR's Offshore Industry Committee (OIC), European Union Offshore Oil and Gas Authorities Group (EUOAG)) have been established; d) The composition of the OFOG Group and Sub-Group is published and kept up to date on a dedicated website; e) The list of the National Offshore Focal Points and OFOG Sub-Group Focal Points is kept updated; f) Roles and responsibilities of UNEP/MAP Components to facilitate the implementation of the Action Plan, from a leading and technical point of view, have been defined and adopted by the Contracting Parties; and g) Required means to ensure the implementation of the Action Plan and the support of the relevant UNEP/MAP Components have been identified.
3. To establish a technical cooperation and capacity building programme	a) The technical cooperation and capacity programme has been included in the five year programme of activities of the Secretariat and its relevant Components and in the biennium programme of work; b) The corresponding budget is adopted by the Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention; and c) Donors have been identified and funds required for the implementation of the technical cooperation and capacity programme have been secured.
4. To establish financial rules related to offshore activities	a) The Offshore Action Plan fund structure managed by a Financial Committee composed of Contracting Parties, oil and gas industry representatives, and the Secretariat have been established; and b) Additional donors have been identified and funds for the implementation of the Action Plan have been secured.
5. To promote access to information, public participation in decision-making	a) The online regional system is functional and maintained; b) The inventory of installations as well as the discharges, spills and emissions from offshore oil and gas installations data submitted by the Contracting Parties is published and kept up to date on a dedicated website; and

	c) A report consolidating the discharges, spills and emissions from offshore oil and gas installations data submitted by the Contracting Parties is produced every two years.
6. To enhance the participation of the regional transfer of technology	<p>a) Results of research studies enhancing the state-of-the-art of offshore pollution prevention, response and monitoring technologies and techniques are published;</p> <p>b) Results of national R&D activities and programmes within and outside the Mediterranean region are disseminated and exchanged; and</p> <p>c) National and regional research institutions and industry participates in the relevant international fora to raise awareness on results of R&D activities undertaken in the Mediterranean region.</p>
7. To develop and adopt regional offshore standards	a) Relevant Components have been designated and their support to the relevant OFOG Sub-Groups for the development of the common standards is coordinated.
8. To develop and adopt regional offshore guidelines	a) Relevant Components have been designated and their support to the relevant OFOG Sub-Groups for the development of the common guidelines is coordinated.
9. To establish regional offshore monitoring procedures and programme	<p>a) The development/adoption of Mediterranean Monitoring Procedures and Programme have been coordinated;</p> <p>b) The Mediterranean Offshore Reporting and Monitoring System is operational and maintained; and</p> <p>c) A report on Discharges, Spills and Emissions from Offshore Oil and Gas Installations, based on data submitted by countries is produced, disseminated and published every two years.</p>
10. To report on the implementation of the Action Plan	a) The Meeting of the Parties to the Offshore Protocol is organized every year from 2015 to 2019
	b) The Guidelines on the structure and content of the national report on the implementation of this Action Plan considering existing reporting procedures (e.g. Reporting under the Compliance Committee) to avoid duplication of reporting procedures, as well as a set of indicators has been developed
	c) All Contracting Parties have submitted to the Secretariat on a biennial basis a reported on the implementation of this Action Plan.
	d) A consolidated report on the implementation of the Action Plan is submitted biennially to the Meetings of the Parties to the Offshore Protocol and the Meetings to the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention.

MEDITERRANEAN OFFSHORE ACTION PLAN

Appendix 2: TIME TABLE

Specific Objective	Activities	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
1. To ratify the Offshore Protocol	1.1 Contracting Parties to ratify the Offshore Protocol										
	1.1. The Secretariat to provide Mediterranean coastal States, which so request, with advice and assistance										
2. To designate Contracting Parties' Representatives to participate to the regional governing bodies	2.1. MAP Focal Point to nominate the National Offshore Focal Point to coordinate at national level activities carried out in the framework of the Action Plan and the OFOG Group										
	2.2. National Offshore Focal Point to designate, as required, the appropriate national entities and/or officials as contact points for each OFOG Sub-Group										
	2.3 National Offshore Focal Point to take the leadership, on a voluntary basis, of the established Sub-Groups to coordinate with the support of the Secretariat the work assigned to the Sub-Groups.										
	2.4 National Offshore Focal to communicate to the Secretariat their contact details and the contact details of the OFOG Sub-Group Focal Point.										
	2.5 The Secretariat to encourage the participation of the industry to invest in safety measures and in the mitigation of environment pollution, to implement best practices according to national, regional and international standards, and to ensure responsible production by contributing financially and technically to the implementation of the Offshore Protocol and its Action Plan, and invite them to participate as observers to the OFOG Sub-Groups;										
	2.6 The Secretariat to enhance public awareness through the contribution of IGOs and NGOs with a relevant mandate to the topics discussed in the various OFOG Sub-Groups, to participate as observers and ensure an open and transparent process through public consultations;										

Specific Objective	Activities	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	2.7 The Secretariat to establish institutional cooperation with various relevant regional and global institutions, initiatives and agreements (e.g. OSPAR's Offshore Industry Committee (OIC), European Union Offshore Oil and Gas Authorities Group (EUOAG));										
	2.8 The Secretariat to publish and kept up to date on a dedicated website the composition of the OFOG Group and Sub-Group;										
	2.9 The Secretariat to keep updated the list of the National Offshore Focal Points and OFOG Sub-Group Focal Points;										
	2.10 The Secretariat to define roles and responsibilities of the Components from a leading and technical point of view, to be adopted by the Contracting Parties to facilitate the implementation of the Action Plan; and										
	2.11 The Secretariat to identify the required means to ensure the implementation of the Action Plan and the support of the relevant UNEP/MAP Components.										
3. To establish a technical cooperation and capacity building programme	3.1 Contracting Parties to agree on the technical cooperation and capacity programme as set in Appendix 3;										
	3.2 The Secretariat to include the technical cooperation and capacity programme in the five year programme of activities of UNEP/MAP and its relevant Components and in the biennium programme of work;										
	3.3 The Secretariat to propose the corresponding budget to be adopted by the Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention; and										
	3.4 The Secretariat to identify donors to secure funds required for the implementation of the technical cooperation and capacity programme.										
4. To establish financial rules related to the regulation of regional offshore activities	4.1. Contracting Parties to establish rules on a reasonable levy on operators, when granting authorization, aimed at supporting the implementation of the Action Plan, in particular OFOG Group's, technical cooperation, capacity building and monitoring activities.										
	4.2. The Secretariat to establish an Offshore Action Plan fund structure managed by a Financial Committee composed of Contracting Parties, oil and gas										

Specific Objective	Activities	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	industry representatives, and the Secretariat; and										
	4.3. The Secretariat to identify additional donors to secure funds for the implementation of the Action Plan.										
5. To promote access to information and public participation in decision-making	5.1. Contracting Parties to report to the Secretariat by 2017 and every two years thereafter, relevant information on the offshore installations within their jurisdiction including, when appropriate, information on their disposal for inclusion in the inventory to be maintained by the Secretariat; and										
	5.2. Contracting Parties to report to the Secretariat discharges, spills and emissions from offshore oil and gas installations data in accordance with the monitoring programme to be defined by the relevant OFOG Sub-Group.										
	5.3. The Secretariat to assess the cost of an online regional system by 2015, to develop and to manage the online regional system by 2016;										
	5.4. The Secretariat to publish by 2017 and keep up to date on a dedicated website the inventory of installations as well as the discharges, spills and emissions from offshore oil and gas installations data submitted by the Contracting Parties; and										
	5.5. The Secretariat to consolidate in a report the discharges, spills and emissions from offshore oil and gas installations data submitted by the Contracting Parties by 2017.										
6. To enhance the regional transfer of technology	6.1. Contracting Parties to encourage their respective scientific and technical institutions, as well as the industry, to actively participate in R&D activities and programmes related to prevention, response and monitoring of pollution from offshore activities; and										
	6.2. Contracting Parties to request their respective national institutions and industry to present the results of their R&D activities and programmes in international fora.										
	6.3. Contracting Parties to provide information on ongoing R&D activities to the Secretariat										

Specific Objective	Activities	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	6.4. The Secretariat to assist in identifying fields of research in which there is a need for enhancement of the state-of-the-art of offshore pollution prevention, response and monitoring technologies and techniques;										
	6.5. The Secretariat to facilitate dissemination and exchange of results of national R&D activities and programmes within and outside the Mediterranean region; and										
	6.6. The Secretariat to facilitate the participation of national and regional research institutions and industry in the relevant international fora with a view to making better known the results of R&D activities undertaken in the Mediterranean region.										
7. To develop and adopt regional offshore standards	7.1. Contracting Parties to develop or adapt to the Mediterranean context existing EIA regional standards taking into consideration requirements referred in Annex IV and other best practices;		█	█							
	7.2. Contracting Parties to formulate and adopt common standards on the use and discharge of harmful or noxious substances and material, defining <i>inter alia</i> limits and prohibitions at regional level;				█	█					
	7.3. Contracting Parties to review, as required, Annex I, II and III and differentiate which chemicals should be covered and not covered by such standards and under which conditions;				█	█					
	7.4. Contracting Parties to formulate and adopt common standards on the disposal of oil and oily mixtures and on the use and disposal drilling fluids and cutting and review the limits set in Article 10 and the prescriptions referred in Annex V of the Protocol;		█	█							
	7.5. Contracting Parties to commonly agree on and adopt the method to be used to analyze the oil content;		█	█							
	7.6. Contracting Parties to follow procedures for contingency planning, notification of accidental spills and transboundary pollution as set under the Protocol concerning Co-operation in Preventing Pollution from Ships and, in Cases of Emergency, Combating Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea;	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█

Specific Objective	Activities	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	7.7. Contracting Parties to define and adopt special restrictions or conditions for Specially Protected Areas;		■	■							
	7.8. Contracting Parties to commonly agree on and adopt criteria, rules and procedures for the removal of installations and the related financial security;						■	■			
	7.9. Contracting Parties to commonly agree on and adopt criteria, rules and procedures for safety measures including health and safety requirements; and							■	■		
	7.10. [Contracting Parties to commonly agree on and adopt criteria, rules and procedures for role/responsibility and qualification of professional and crews.]							■	■		
	7.11. The Secretariat designates relevant Components and coordinates their support to the relevant OFOG Sub-Groups for the development of the above common standards.	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
8. To develop and adopt regional offshore guidelines on	8.1. Contracting Parties to develop and adopt regional guidelines on Environment Impact Assessment;		■	■							
	8.2. Contracting Parties to develop and adopt regional guidelines on Use and discharge of harmful or noxious substances and material;				■	■					
	8.3. Contracting Parties to develop and adopt regional guidelines on Disposal of oil and oily mixtures and the use and disposal drilling fluids and cutting and analytical measurement;		■	■							
	8.4. Contracting Parties to develop and adopt regional guidelines on Removal of installations and the related financial security;						■	■			
	8.5. Contracting Parties to develop and adopt regional guidelines on Installation safety measures including health and safety requirements;							■	■		
	8.6. Contracting Parties to develop and adopt regional guidelines on Role/responsibility and qualification of professional and crews;							■	■		
	8.7. Contracting Parties to develop and adopt regional guidelines on Authorization requirements based on the above mentioned Standards; and										■

Specific Objective	Activities	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	8.8. Contracting Parties to contribute through their OPRC Focal Points to the revision of the Section II of the Manual on Oil Pollution – Contingency Planning by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) OPRC Technical Group scheduled in 2015 which will new information related to contingency planning for offshore units, sea ports and oil handling facilities.										
	8.9. The Secretariat to designate the relevant Components and coordinate their support to the relevant OFOG Sub-Groups for the development of the above common guidelines.										
9. To establish regional offshore monitoring procedures and programme	9.1. Contracting Parties to define, building inter alia on the relevant work in the ecosystem approach related to indicator 9.3.1 on occurrence, origin (where possible, extent of significant acute pollution events (e.g. slicks from oil, oil products and hazardous substances) and their impact on biota affected by this pollution), as described in Decision IG 21/3, the data to be collected and assessed (e.g. granted authorizations, type of installation, the number of installations with emission and discharges, the use and discharge of drilling fluids and cuttings, discharges of oil in produced water, chemicals used and discharged offshore, accidental spill of oil and chemicals and emissions to air) using or adapting to the Mediterranean context existing regional monitoring procedures and programme										
	9.2. Contracting Parties to report to the Secretariat results of the national offshore monitoring programme and provide the agreed data;										
	9.3. [Contracting Parties to report to the Secretariat in the framework of the monitoring programme deviation from the initial EIA;]										
	9.4. The Secretariat to coordinate the development/adoption of Mediterranean Monitoring Procedures and Programmes building on the relevant work undertaken in the Monitoring Correspondence Groups, that take place between 2014-2015 in the EcAp process in line with Decision 21/3;										
	9.5. The Secretariat to define cost, develop and manage the Mediterranean Offshore Reporting and Monitoring System (e.g. Regional Data Bank on										

Specific Objective	Activities	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	Offshore activities through the Barcelona Convention Reporting System or other systems defined by the Contracting Parties);										
	9.6. The Secretariat to produce, disseminate and publish every two years a report on Discharges, Spills and Emissions from Offshore Oil and Gas Installations, based on data submitted by countries;										
10. To report on the implementation of the Action Plan	10.1. Contracting Parties to report on a biennial basis on the implementation of this Action Plan;										
	10.2. The Secretariat to draft Guidelines on the structure and content of the national report on the implementation of this Action Plan considering existing reporting procedures (e.g. Reporting under the Compliance Committee) to avoid duplication of reporting procedures, as well as a set of indicators										
	10.3. The Secretariat to organize, the Meetings of the Parties to the Offshore Protocol;										
	10.4. The Secretariat to consolidate the report on the implementation of the Action Plan for its submission to the Meetings of the Parties to the Offshore Protocol and the Meetings of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention.										

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Appendix 3: DRAFT ESTIMATION OF REQUIRED MEANS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ACTION PLAN

Specific Objective	Activities	Means required	Estimated cost (Euro)
1. To ratify the Offshore Protocol	1.1 The Secretariat to provide Mediterranean coastal States, which so request, with advice and assistance	Technical Support and Secretariat staff time	75,000
2. To designate Contracting Parties' Representatives to participate to the regional governing bodies	2.1. MAP Focal Point to nominate the National Offshore Focal Point to coordinate at national level activities carried out in the framework of the Action Plan and the OFOG Group	Nomination	0
	2.2. National Offshore Focal Point to designate, as required, the appropriate national entities and/or officials as contact points for each OFOG Sub-Group	Nomination	0
	2.3. National Offshore Focal Point to take the leadership, on a voluntary basis, of the established Sub-Groups to coordinate with the support of the Secretariat the work assigned to the Sub-Groups.	Volunteering	0
	2.4. National Offshore Focal to communicate to the Secretariat their contact details and the contact details of the OFOG Sub-Group Focal Point.	Contact communication	0
	2.5. The Secretariat to encourage the participation of the industry to invest in safety measures and in the mitigation of environment pollution, to implement best practices according to national, regional and international standards, and to ensure responsible production by contributing financially and technically to the implementation of the Offshore Protocol and its Action Plan, and invite them to participate as observers to the OFOG Sub-Groups;	Secretariat staff time and travels	End note ⁱ Secretariat Travels on Official Business
	2.6. The Secretariat to enhance public awareness through the contribution of IGOs and NGOs with a relevant mandate to the topics discussed in the various OFOG Sub-Groups, to participate as observers and ensure an	Secretariat staff time	End note ⁱ

Specific Objective	Activities	Means required	Estimated cost (Euro)
	open and transparent process through public consultations;		
	2.7. The Secretariat to establish institutional cooperation with various relevant regional and global institutions, initiatives and agreements (e.g. OSPAR's Offshore Industry Committee (OIC), European Union Offshore Oil and Gas Authorities Group (EUOAG));	Secretariat staff time and travels	End note ¹ Secretariat Travels on Official Business
	2.8. The Secretariat to publish and kept up to date on a dedicated website the composition of the OFOG Group and Sub-Group;	Website developer	20,000
	2.9. [UNEP/MAP] to keep updated the list of the National Offshore Focal Points and OFOG Sub-Group Focal Points;	Secretariat staff time	End note ¹
	2.10. The Secretariat to define roles and responsibilities of UNEP/MAP Components from a leading and technical point of view, to be adopted by the Contracting Parties to facilitate the implementation of the Action Plan; and	Secretariat staff time	End note ¹
	2.11. The Secretariat to identify the required means to ensure the implementation of the Action Plan and the support of the relevant Components.	Secretariat staff time	End note ¹
3. To establish a technical cooperation and capacity building programme	3.1. Contracting Parties to agree on the technical cooperation and capacity programme as set in Appendix 3;		
	Technical Cooperation for the development of Standards and Guidelines		
	• Monitoring	Consultancy funds	20,000
	• Use and discharge of harmful or noxious substances and material	Consultancy funds	20,000
	• Disposal of oil and oily mixtures and on the use and disposal drilling fluids and cutting	Consultancy funds	20,000
	• Offshore platform Preparedness and Response & Contingency Plan Assessment	Participation of Contracting Parties to the IMO OPRC-HNS Technical Group meetings	0
	• Removal of installations	Consultancy funds	20,000
• Safety measures including health and safety requirements and fire	Consultancy funds	20,000	

Specific Objective	Activities	Means required	Estimated cost (Euro)
	fighting		
	• Role/responsibility and qualification of professional and crews	Consultancy funds	20,000
	• Granting of authorizations	Consultancy funds	20,000
	• Inspection/sanctions (Installation/Discharge/Competent manning)	Consultancy funds	20,000
	Training²		
	• Monitoring	Training funds	60,000
	• Use and discharge of harmful or noxious substances and material	Training funds	60,000
	• Disposal of oil and oily mixtures and on the use and disposal drilling fluids and cutting	Training funds	60,000
	• Offshore platform Preparedness and Response & Contingency Plan Assessment	Training funds	60,000
	• Removal of installations	Training funds	60,000
	• Safety measures including health and safety requirements and fire fighting	Training funds	60,000
	• Role/responsibility and qualification of professional and crews	Training funds	60,000
	• Granting of authorizations	Training funds	60,000
	• Inspection/sanctions (Installation/Discharge/Competent manning)	Training funds	60,000
	3.2. The Secretariat to include the technical cooperation and capacity programme in the five year programme of activities of UNEP/MAP and its relevant Components and in the bienniums programme of work;	Secretariat staff time	End note ¹
	3.3. The Secretariat to propose the corresponding budget to be adopted by the Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention; and	Secretariat staff time	End note ¹
	3.4. The Secretariat to identify donors to secure funds required for the implementation of the technical cooperation and capacity programme.	Secretariat staff time	End note ¹

² Estimation based on the assumption that 2 Participants per country attend the regional training

Specific Objective	Activities	Means required	Estimated cost (Euro)
4. To establish financial rules related to the regulation of regional offshore activities	4.1 Contracting Parties to establish rules on a reasonable levy on operators, when granting authorization, aimed at supporting the implementation of the Action Plan, in particular OFOG Group's, technical cooperation, capacity building and monitoring activities.	Contracting Parties time and participation to the Meetings of the Parties to the Offshore Protocol	Spec. Objective 9
	4.2 The Secretariat to establish an Offshore Action Plan fund structure managed by a Financial Committee composed of Contracting Parties, oil and gas industry representatives, and UNEP/MAP; and	Secretariat staff time	End note ⁱ
	4.3 The Secretariat to identify additional donors to secure funds for the implementation of the Action Plan.	Secretariat staff time and travels	End note ⁱ Secretariat Travels on Official Business
5. To promote access to information and public participation in decision-making	5.1. Contracting Parties to report to the Secretariat by July 2015 and every two years thereafter, relevant information on the offshore installations within their jurisdiction including, when appropriate, information on their disposal for inclusion in the inventory to be maintained by the Secretariat; and	Contracting Parties time	0
	5.2. Contracting Parties to report to the Secretariat discharges, spills and emissions from offshore oil and gas installations data in accordance with the monitoring programme to be defined by the relevant OFOG Sub-Group.	Contracting Parties time	0
	5.3. The Secretariat to assess the cost of, to develop and to manage an online regional system;	online regional system	20,000
	5.4. The Secretariat to publish and keep up to date on a dedicated website the inventory of installations as well as the discharges, spills and emissions from offshore oil and gas installations data submitted by the Contracting Parties; and	Secretariat staff time	End note ⁱ
	5.5. The Secretariat to consolidate in a report the discharges, spills and emissions from offshore oil and gas installations data submitted by the Contracting Parties.	Secretariat staff time	End note ⁱ
6. To enhance the regional transfer of technology	6.1. Contracting Parties to encourage their respective scientific and technical institutions, as well as the industry, to actively participate in R&D	Contracting Parties time	0

Specific Objective	Activities	Means required	Estimated cost (Euro)
	activities and programmes related to prevention, response and monitoring of pollution from offshore activities; and		
	6.2. Contracting Parties to request their respective national institutions and industry to present the results of their R&D activities and programmes in international fora.	Contracting Parties time	0
	6.3. Contracting Parties to provide information on ongoing R&D Activities to the Secretariat	Contracting Parties time	0
	6.4. The Secretariat to in identifying fields of research in which there is a need for enhancement of the state-of-the-art of offshore pollution prevention, response and monitoring technologies and techniques;	Secretariat staff time	End note ¹
	6.5. The Secretariat to facilitate dissemination and exchange of results of national R&D activities and programmes within and outside the Mediterranean region; and	Secretariat staff time	End note ¹
	6.6. The Secretariat to facilitate the participation of national and regional research institutions and industry in the relevant international fora with a view to making better known the results of R&D activities undertaken in the Mediterranean region.	Travels	20,000
7. To develop and adopt regional offshore standards	7.1. Contracting Parties to develop or adapt to the Mediterranean context existing EIA regional standards taking into consideration requirements referred in Annex IV and other best practices;	Contracting Parties time, technical support as set in specific objective 2 and participation to the Meetings of the Parties to the Offshore Protocol	specific objective 2 specific objective 9
	7.2. Contracting Parties to formulate and adopt common standards on the use and discharge of harmful or noxious substances and material, defining <i>inter alia</i> limits and prohibitions at regional level;	Contracting Parties time, technical support as set in specific objective 2 and participation to the Meetings of the Parties to the Offshore Protocol	specific objective 2 specific objective 9

Specific Objective	Activities	Means required	Estimated cost (Euro)
	7.3. Contracting Parties to review, as required, Annex I, II and III and differentiate which chemicals should be covered and not covered by such standards and under which conditions;	Contracting Parties time, technical support as set in specific objective 2 and participation to the Meetings of the Parties to the Offshore Protocol	specific objective 2 specific objective 9
	7.4. Contracting Parties to formulate and adopt common standards on the disposal of oil and oily mixtures and on the use and disposal of drilling fluids and cutting and review the limits set in Article 10 and the prescriptions referred in Annex V of the Protocol;	Contracting Parties time, technical support as set in specific objective 2 and participation to the Meetings of the Parties to the Offshore Protocol	specific objective 2 specific objective 9
	7.5. Contracting Parties to commonly agree on and adopt the method to be used to analyze the oil content;	Contracting Parties time, technical support as set in specific objective 2 and participation to the Meetings of the Parties to the Offshore Protocol	specific objective 2 specific objective 9
	7.6. Contracting Parties to follow procedures for contingency planning, notification of accidental spills and transboundary pollution as set under the Protocol concerning Co-operation in Preventing Pollution from Ships and, in Cases of Emergency, Combating Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea;	Contracting Parties time, technical support as set in specific objective 2 and participation to the Meetings of the Parties to the Offshore Protocol	specific objective 2 specific objective 9
	7.7. Contracting Parties to define and adopt special restrictions or conditions for Specially Protected Areas;	Contracting Parties time, technical support as set in specific objective 2 and participation to the Meetings of the Parties to the Offshore Protocol	specific objective 2 specific objective 9
	7.8. Contracting Parties to commonly agree on and adopt criteria, rules and	Contracting Parties time,	specific

Specific Objective	Activities	Means required	Estimated cost (Euro)
	procedures for the removal of installations and the related financial security;	technical support as set in specific objective 2 and participation to the Meetings of the Parties to the Offshore Protocol	objective 2 specific objective 9
	7.9. Contracting Parties to commonly agree on and adopt criteria, rules and procedures for safety measures including health and safety requirements; and	Contracting Parties time, technical support as set in specific objective 2 and participation to the Meetings of the Parties to the Offshore Protocol	specific objective 2 specific objective 9
	7.10. [Contracting Parties to commonly agree on and adopt criteria, rules and procedures for role/responsibility and qualification of professionals and crews.]	Contracting Parties time, technical support as set in specific objective 2 and participation to the Meetings of the Parties to the Offshore Protocol	specific objective 2 specific objective 9
	7.11. The Secretariat to designate relevant Components and coordinate their support to the relevant OFOG Sub-Groups for the development of the above common standards.	Secretariat staff time	End note ¹
8. To develop and adopt regional offshore guidelines on	8.1. Contracting Parties to develop and adopt regional guidelines on Environment Impact Assessment;	Contracting Parties time, technical support as set in specific objective 2 and participation to the Meetings of the Parties to the Offshore Protocol	specific objective 2 specific objective 9
	8.2. Contracting Parties to develop and adopt regional guidelines on Use and discharge of harmful or noxious substances and material;	Contracting Parties time, technical support as set in specific objective 2 and participation to the Meetings of the Parties to the Offshore Protocol	specific objective 2 specific objective 9

Specific Objective	Activities	Means required	Estimated cost (Euro)
	8.3. Contracting Parties to develop and adopt regional guidelines on Disposal of oil and oily mixtures and the use and disposal drilling fluids and cutting and analytical measurement;	Contracting Parties time, technical support as set in specific objective 2 and participation to the Meetings of the Parties to the Offshore Protocol	specific objective 2 specific objective 9
	8.4. Contracting Parties to develop and adopt regional guidelines on Removal of installations and the related financial security;	Contracting Parties time, technical support as set in specific objective 2 and participation to the Meetings of the Parties to the Offshore Protocol	specific objective 2 specific objective 9
	8.5. Contracting Parties to develop and adopt regional guidelines on installation safety measures including health and safety requirements;	Contracting Parties time, technical support as set in specific objective 2 and participation to the Meetings of the Parties to the Offshore Protocol	specific objective 2 specific objective 9
	8.6. Contracting Parties to develop and adopt regional guidelines on Role/responsibility and qualification of professionals and crews;	Contracting Parties time, technical support as set in specific objective 2 and participation to the Meetings of the Parties to the Offshore Protocol	specific objective 2 specific objective 9
	8.7. Contracting Parties to develop and adopt regional guidelines on Authorization requirements based on the above mentioned Standards; and	Contracting Parties time, technical support as set in specific objective 2 and participation to the Meetings of the Parties to the Offshore Protocol	specific objective 2 specific objective 9
	8.8. Contracting Parties to contribute through their OPRC Focal Points to the revision of the Section II of the Manual on Oil Pollution – Contingency Planning by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) OPRC	Contracting Parties time, technical support as set in specific objective 2 and	specific objective 2 specific

Specific Objective	Activities	Means required	Estimated cost (Euro)
	Technical Group scheduled in 2015 which will new information related to contingency planning for offshore units, sea ports and oil handling facilities.	participation to the Meetings of the Parties to the Offshore Protocol	objective 9
	8.9. The Secretariat to designate the relevant Components and coordinate their support to the relevant OFOG Sub-Groups for the development of the above common guidelines.	Secretariat staff time	
9. To establish regional offshore monitoring procedures and programme	9.1. Contracting Parties to define, building inter alia on the relevant work in the ecosystem approach related to indicator 9.3.1 on occurrence, origin (where possible, extent of significant acute pollution events (e.g. slicks from oil, oil products and hazardous substances) and their impact on biota affected by this pollution), as described in Decision IG 21/3, the data to be collected and assessed (e.g. granted authorizations, type of installation, the number of installations with emission and discharges, the use and discharge of drilling fluids and cuttings, discharges of oil in produced water, chemicals used and discharged offshore, accidental spill of oil and chemicals and emissions to air) using or adapting to the Mediterranean context existing regional monitoring procedures and programme	Contracting Parties time, technical support as set in specific objective 2 and participation to the Meetings of the Parties to the Offshore Protocol	specific objective 2 specific objective 9
	9.2. Contracting Parties to report to the Secretariat results of the national offshore monitoring programme and provide the agreed data;	Contracting Parties time	0
	9.3. [Contracting Parties to report to the Secretariat in the framework of the monitoring programme deviation from the initial EIA;]	Contracting Parties time	0
	9.4. The Secretariat to coordinate the development/adoption of Mediterranean Monitoring Procedures and Programme;	Secretariat staff time	End note ¹
	9.5. The Secretariat to define cost, develop and manage the Mediterranean Offshore Reporting and Monitoring System (e.g. Regional Data Bank on Offshore activities through the Barcelona Convention Reporting System or other systems defined by the Contracting Parties);	Mediterranean Offshore Reporting and Monitoring System	20,000

Specific Objective	Activities	Means required	Estimated cost (Euro)
	9.6. The Secretariat to produce, disseminate and publish every two years a report on Discharges, Spills and Emissions from Offshore Oil and Gas Installations, based on data submitted by countries;	Secretariat staff time, publication and dissemination	9,000 ³
10. To report on the implementation of the Action Plan	10.1. Contracting Parties to report through the BARCO OFOG Group, on a biennial basis on the implementation of this Action Plan, in particular on the effectiveness of the measures defined in this Action Plan and difficulties encountered. The major reporting elements are provided in Appendix 6 of the Action Plan;	Contracting Parties time	0
	10.2. The Secretariat to draft Guidelines on the structure and content of the national report on the implementation of this Action Plan considering existing reporting procedures (e.g. Reporting under the Compliance Committee) to avoid duplication of reporting procedures, as well as a set of indicators;	Secretariat staff time	End note ⁱ
	10.3. The Secretariat to organize, the Meetings of the Parties to the Offshore Protocol;	Travel/DSA	300,000 ⁴
	10.4. The Secretariat to consolidate the report on the implementation of the Action Plan for its submission to the Meetings of the Parties to the Offshore Protocol and the Meetings of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention;	Secretariat staff time	End note ⁱ
Secretariat Travels on Official Business	Participate in relevant meetings, and events	Travel/DSA	100,000 ⁵
TOTAL			1,264,000⁶

ⁱ Taking into account the amount of tasks to be implemented by the Secretariat, the creation of a five year Project Post should be envisaged, with the assumption that the Officer is recruited at P3 level, the annual cost would be estimated at Euro 107,000 with an annual increase of approximately 4.5%. For cost reduction purposes, this role could be fulfilled by a national officer seconded every two years by Contracting Parties to the Secretariat.

³ Assumption: 3 reports published over the Action Plan period at Euro 3,000 per report

⁴ Assumption: 5 Meetings over the Action Plan period (2015-2024) at Euro 60,000 per meeting

⁵ Assumption: Budget of 10,000 Euro per year over the Action Plan period (2015-2024) for Secretariat Travels on Official Business

⁶ Excluding the cost related to the Officer in charge of supporting the implementation of the Action Plan

MEDITERRANEAN OFFSHORE ACTION PLAN

Appendix 4 – TECHNICAL COOPERATION AND CAPACITY PROGRAMME

	Year ⁷				
Technical support (Consultancy services) for the development of Standards and Guidelines⁸	15	16	17	18	19
Monitoring					
Use and discharge of harmful or noxious substances and material					
Disposal of oil and oily mixtures and on the use and disposal drilling fluids and cutting					
Removal of installations					
Safety measures including health and safety requirements and fire fighting					
Role/responsibility and qualification of professional and crews					
Granting of authorizations					
Training	15	16	17	18	19
Monitoring					
Use and discharge of harmful or noxious substances and material					
Disposal of oil and oily mixtures and on the use and disposal drilling fluids and cutting					
Offshore platform Preparedness and Response & Contingency Plan Assessment					
Removal of installations					
Safety measures including health and safety requirements and fire fighting					
Role/responsibility and qualification of professional and crews					
Granting of authorizations					
Inspection/sanctions (Installation/Discharge/Competent manning)					

⁷ Subject to availability of funds

⁸ Offshore platform Preparedness and Response & Contingency Plan Assessment will be followed by Contracting Parties at the IMO OPRC-HNS Technical Group Meetings

Appendix 4 – TECHNICAL COOPERATION AND CAPACITY PROGRAMME – COUNTRY PROPOSALS⁹

Training	Country
Granting of authorizations	Croatia, Malta, Morocco
Inspection/sanctions:	
• Installations;	Algeria, Greece, Morocco
• Discharges	Algeria, Greece, Morocco
• Competent manning	Algeria, Greece, Morocco
Monitoring	Algeria, Croatia, Greece, Morocco
Other	
Offshore platform fire fighting	Algeria
Offshore platform Preparedness and Response (Operational and accidental Pollutions)	Algeria
Offshore platform Contingency Plan Assessment (In accordance with National Contingency Plan)	Morocco

⁹ Source: Algeria, Croatia, Greece, Malta and Morocco Offshore Protocol Recommendation Forms

MEDITERRANEAN OFFSHORE ACTION PLAN

Appendix 5: POTENTIAL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT TOPICS

Gas emission:

- Local and Regional Study on Green Gas Emission from offshore installation
- Diffusion Model on Green Gas Emission from offshore installation

Noise:

- Environmental Impact Assessment on noise generated by offshore activities

Inspection:

- Feasibility Study on the establishment of a Mediterranean Offshore Installation Inspectors Team composed of trained experts from different Mediterranean Countries

Liability and compensation

- Feasibility study on a regional liability and compensation scheme for oil pollution damage resulting from offshore exploration and exploitation activities

Fisheries

- Short-term and long-term impact of the oil and gas (O&G) industry on Mediterranean fisheries

Response to marine pollution

- Environmental Impact Assessment of multiple in situ burning operations on major oil spills from offshore platforms in the Mediterranean Region
- Environmental Impact Assessment of extended use of dispersants on major oil spills from offshore platforms in the Mediterranean Region
- Mediterranean Offshore Oil Spill Risk Assessment Study
- Mediterranean Offshore Oil Spill Risk Assessment Tool