



United Nations  
Environment  
Programme



Distr.  
RESTRICTED

UNEP/IG.43/INF.9  
31 December 1982

Original:  
ENGLISH

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Third Meeting of the Contracting Parties  
to the Convention for the Protection of the  
Mediterranean Sea against pollution and its  
related protocols.

Dubrovnik, 28 February - 4 March 1983

REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROTOCOL FOR  
THE PREVENTION OF POLLUTION OF THE MEDITERRANEAN  
SEA BY DUMPING FROM SHIPS AND AIRCRAFT

1. The Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution <sup>1/</sup> in its Article 5 states that "The Contracting Parties shall take all appropriate measures to prevent and abate pollution of the Mediterranean Sea Area caused by dumping from ships and aircrafts".
2. The above mentioned Convention, in its Article 13, establishes that "the Contracting Parties designate the United Nations Environment Programme as responsible for carrying out (among others) the following secretariat functions:
  - (a) To perform the functions assigned to it by the protocols to this Convention".
3. The Protocol for the Prevention of Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by Dumping from Ships and Aircraft <sup>2/</sup> in its Article 14, states that, "Ordinary meetings of the Parties to this Protocol shall be held in conjunction with ordinary meetings of the Contracting Parties to the Convention held pursuant to Article 14 of the Convention".
4. Article 14 of the Protocol further states that "it shall be the function of the meetings of the Parties to this Protocol:
  - (a) To keep under review the implementation of this Protocol, and to consider the efficacy of the measures adopted and the need for any other measures, in particular in the form of annexes;

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1/ The Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution entered into force on 12/2/78 and has the following Contracting Parties:

Algeria	Malta
Cyprus	Monaco
Egypt	Morocco
France	Spain
Greece	Syria
Israel	Tunisia
Italy	Turkey
Lebanon	Yugoslavia
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	EEC

2/ The Protocol for the Prevention of Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by Dumping from Ships and Aircraft entered into force in 12/2/78 and has the following Contracting Parties:

Algeria	Malta
Cyprus	Monaco
Egypt	Morocco
France	Spain
Greece	Syria
Italy	Tunisia
Lebanon	Turkey
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	Yugoslavia
	EEC

- (b) To study and consider the records of the permits issued in accordance with Articles 5, 6 and 7 and of the dumping which has taken place;
  - (c) To review and amend as required any annex to this Protocol;
  - (d) To discharge such other functions as may be appropriate for the implementation of this Protocol".
5. In pursuance of the provisions made by Article 14, the United Nations Environment Programme has prepared the present report covering :
- (a) The records of the permits issued in accordance with Articles 5, 6 and 7;
  - (b) The records of the dumping which has taken place;
  - (c) The review of the implementation of the Protocol and the efficacy of the measures adopted; and
  - (d) The recommendations for other measures to be adopted.
- A. Report on the permits issued in accordance with Articles 5, 6 and 7
6. Article 5 of the Protocol states that "the dumping into the Mediterranean Sea Area of wastes or other matter listed in Annex II to this Protocol requires, in each case, a prior special permit from the competent national authorities".
7. Permits to which Article 5 refers that have been issued during the period 12/2/ 78 to 31/12/82 by the Contracting Parties are listed in Tables I and II.
8. Article 6 of the Protocol states that "the dumping into the Mediterranean Sea Area of all other wastes or other matter requires a prior general permit from the competent national authorities".
9. The permits to which Article 6 refers that have been issued during the period 12/2/78 to 31/12/82 by the Contracting Parties are listed in Table III.
- 9a. The total amounts of waste authorized for dumping under special and general permits are given in Table IV.
- B. Report on the actual amounts of waste and other matter dumped in the Mediterranean Sea Area
10. Article 4 of the Protocol states that: "the dumping into the Mediterranean Sea Area of wastes or other matter listed in Annex I to this Protocol is prohibited".
11. There have been no reports of dumping incidents prohibited in accordance with article 4 nor complaints that prohibiting dumping may have occurred during the period 12/2/78 to 31/12/82.

12. Reports on actual dumpings of waste or other matter carried out under special permits, during the period 12/2/78 to 31/12/82, received from the Contracting Parties are listed in Table V.
13. Reports on actual dumpings of waste or other matter carried out under general permits, during the period 12/2/78 to 31/12/82, received from the Contracting Parties are listed in Table VI.
14. Article 8 of the Protocol states that "The provisions of Articles 4, 5 and 6 shall not apply in case of force majeure due to stress of weather or any other cause when human life or the safety of a ship or aircraft is threatened. Such dumpings shall immediately be reported to the Organization and, either through the Organization or directly, to any Party or Parties likely to be affected, together with full details of the circumstances and of the nature and quantities of the wastes or other matter dumped".
15. Reports on operations carried out under the provisions of Article 8 have been made by the following Contracting Parties;

France: Sinking of the tanker "Cavo Cambanos" loaded with 18000 tm of naphta and propulsion fuel. The operation took place on 5 July 1981 at a depth of 2700 m and coordinates 41°12'N 07°09'E, and was reported on 17 July 1981 by the Government of France. Information relative to the circumstances and to the nature and quantities of the wastes or other matter dumped were provided to the secretariat as well as a full report on the surveillance of the dumping site after the dumping. Evidence on the application of Article 8 seemed to be sufficient. All the Contracting Parties were informed by a letter dated 4 August 1981.

Spain: Sinking of the cargo "Lisa O" loaded with 80-100 tm of explosives, 23 tm of sodium hydrosulphite, about 10 tm of hydrogen peroxide and the remaining of 165 tm general cargo. The operation took place on 1 October 1981 at coordinates 39°43.5'N 04°58.2'E and was reported, on request of the secretariat, by Spanish authorities on 10 December 1981. Evidence on the application of Article 8 seemed to be sufficient. Additional information on the chemical characteristics of the explosives, on the characteristics of the dumping site as well as on any surveillance which could be undertaken after the dumping was requested by the secretariat. No reply was received.

16. Article 9 of the Protocol states that "If a Party in a critical situation of an exceptional nature considers that wastes or other matter listed in Annex I to this Protocol cannot be disposed of on land without unacceptable danger or damage, above all for the safety of human life, the Party concerned shall forthwith consult the Organization. The Organization, after consulting the Parties to this Protocol, shall recommend methods of storage or the most satisfactory means of destruction or disposal under the prevailing circumstances. The Party shall inform the Organization of the steps adopted in pursuance of these recommendations. The Parties pledge themselves to assist one another in such situations".

17. No request for dumping under Article 9 has been received.

17a. Information received on the amounts of waste and other matter actually dumped into the Mediterranean Sea Area are given in Table VII.

C. Review of the implementation of the Protocol and the efficacy of the measures adopted

18. Since the entry into force of the Protocol, the following measures have been taken by the Contracting Parties:

Algeria : No information received  
Cyprus : " " "  
Egypt : " " "  
France : National legislation on dumping having been developed recently, internal regulations for the issuance of permits still remains to be done.  
Greece : No information received  
  
Italy : " " "  
Lebanon : " " "  
Libya : National legislation has been developed recently which forbids dumping in the harbours or territorial waters of Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya except in cases of emergency.  
Malta : No information received  
Monaco : " " "  
Morocco : " " "  
Spain : " " "  
Tunisia : " " "  
Turkey : " " "  
Yugoslavia : " " "  
EEC : " " "

19. The following measures have been taken by the secretariat:

(a) Convening of the Meeting of Experts on the Protocol for the Prevention of Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by Dumping from Ships and Aircraft. (Geneva, 2-6 July 1979). The meeting prepared forms for reporting special and general permits and for annual reports concerning actual dumping carried out by the Parties to the Protocol. It also discussed the text concerning the application of Article 9 of the Protocol, and proposed a provisional prior consultation procedure. The report of the meeting (UNEP/WG.28/3) was brought to the attention of the Second Meeting of the Contracting Parties (Cannes, 2-7 March 1982), and adopted.

- (b) Co-operation in the convening of the IAEA/IMO Technical Committee Meeting on Methodologies for Assessment of Sea Dumping of Radioactive Wastes (Vienna, Austria, 30 August-3 September 1982).
- (c) Co-operation with International Maritime Organisation and with the Oslo Commission and other regional organizations. In particular, the secretariat received information from the secretariat of the Oslo Commission about the possible dumping in the Mediterranean Sea Area of approx. 10000 tm of acetic acid contaminated by sea water on board the tanker "Thoralbe". The Contracting Parties were informed of the eventuality by letter of 10 March 1982. After consultation with the firm responsible for the cargo it was made clear that the complete cargo was unloaded in a Mediterranean port.

D. Recommendations for other measures to be adopted by the Contracting Parties

- 20. The Contracting Parties should become aware of the difficulties encountered by the secretariat through their failure to designate a competent authority (ies) to issue permits and keep records of the nature and quantities of the wastes and other matter dumped in accordance with Article 10 of the Protocol and take the necessary corrective measures.
- 21. The Contracting Parties should also become aware of the need for early communication of the issuance of special permits and for establishing a deadline for submission of annual reports on general permits and on actual dumpings.
- 22. In view of the limited number of replies received, the meeting may not be in a position to consider the efficacy of the measures adopted, thus the Contracting Parties are requested to submit at the meeting additional information and allow the secretariat to prepare a revised version of the present Report which would be distributed to the Contracting Parties in mid 1983.
- 23. In view of the diversity of languages used by the National Authorities, the Contracting Parties are requested to submit their information in one of the working languages of the secretariat (English or French) and in accordance with the agreed formats (UNEP/WG.28/3).

Table I

NUMBER OF SPECIAL PERMITS ISSUED (1978-1982)

In accordance with Art. 5 of the Protocol

Country	Industrial Waste	Sewage	Dredge Spoil	Other
ALGERIA	nr	nr	nr	nr
CYPRUS	nr	nr	nr	nr
EGYPT	nr	nr	nr	nr
FRANCE	none	none	none	none
GREECE	nr	nr	nr	nr
ITALY	2	nr	nr	nr
LEBANON	nr	nr	nr	nr
LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA	nr	nr	nr	nr
MALTA	nr	nr	nr	nr
MONACO	none	none	none	none
MOROCCO	nr	nr	nr	nr
SPAIN	nr	nr	nr	nr
TUNISIA	nr	nr	nr	nr
TURKEY	nr	nr	nr	nr
YUGOSLAVIA	none	none	none	none
EEC	nr	nr	nr	nr

nr = no information received

Table II

NOTIFICATION OF SPECIAL PERMITS IN ACCORDANCE WITH  
ARTICLE 5 OF THE PROTOCOL

C O U N T R Y	Substance Dumped	Annex II Substances	Amount Tonnes	Period of Validity	Co-ordinates	Distance from the Nearest Land and Depth at Dumping Site	Monitoring Mandatory
ITALY (D. XVII Prot. No: 5176714) Cap. Porto Venezia 16/6/81	Industrial waste	Fluorides	Max. 1.536 million	18 months	A) 45°14'00" N 12°53'30" E B) 45°13'15" N 12°55'20" E C) 45°11'15" N 12°53'15" E D) 45°12'10" N 12°51'30" E		Yes
ITALY (D. XVII Prot. No: 5176043) Cap. Porto Livorno 26/6/81	Industrial waste	Heavy metals (Pb, Cu, Zn, Cr, Ni, V, Se and traces of Cd, Hg)	Max. 1.5 million	18 months	A) 43°29'N 09°12'E B) 43°39'N 09°20'E C) 43°29'N 09°08'E D) 43°31'N 09°03'E	30 nm 1000-1700 m	No



NUMBER OF GENERAL PERMITS ISSUED (1978-1982)

In accordance with Art. 6 of the Protocol

Country	Industrial Waste	Sewage	Dredge Spoil	Other
ALGERIA	nr	nr	nr	nr
CYPRUS	nr	nr	nr	nr
EGYPT	nr	nr	nr	nr
FRANCE	none	none	none	none
GREECE	nr	nr	nr	nr
ITALY	nr	nr	nr	nr
LEBANON	nr	nr	nr	nr
LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA	nr	nr	nr	nr
MALTA	nr	nr	nr	nr
MONACO	none	none	none	none
MOROCCO	nr	nr	nr	nr
SPAIN	nr	nr	nr	nr
TUNISIA	nr	nr	nr	nr
TURKEY	nr	nr	nr	nr
YUGOSLAVIA	none	none	none	none
EEC	nr	nr	nr	nr

nr = no information received

Table IV  
AMOUNTS OF WASTE AUTHORIZED FOR DUMPING INTO THE SEA DURING 1981 and 1982  
(IN MILLION OF TONNES PER ANNUM)

C O U N T R Y	INDUSTRIAL WASTE			SEWAGE SLUDGES			DREDGED SPOILS		
	New permits issued in 1982	Permits issued before 1982	Total amount authorized for 1981   1982	New permits issued in 1982	Permits issued before 1982	Total amount authorized for 1981   1982	New permits issued in 1982	Permits issued before 1982	Total amount authorized for 1981   1982
ALGERIA									
CYPRUS									
EGYPT									
FRANCE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
GREECE									
ISRAEL									
ITALY	0.5	1.5	0.5   1.5	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr
LEBANON									
LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA									
MALTA									
MONACO	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
MOROCCO									
SPAIN									
TUNISIA									
TURKEY									
YUGOSLAVIA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<u>T O T A L</u>									

nr = no information received

Table V  
NUMBER OF REPORTS ON DUMPING UNDER SPECIAL PERMITS  
1978-1982

Country	Industrial waste	Sewage	Dredge Spoil	Other
ALGERIA	nr	nr	nr	nr
CYPRUS	nr	nr	nr	nr
EGYPT	nr	nr	nr	nr
FRANCE	na	na	na	na
GREECE	nr	nr	nr	nr
ITALY	nr	nr	nr	nr
LEBANON	nr	nr	nr	nr
LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA	nr	nr	nr	nr
MALTA	nr	nr	nr	nr
MONACO	na	na	na	na
MOROCCO	nr	nr	nr	nr
SPAIN	nr	nr	nr	nr
TUNISIA	nr	nr	nr	nr
TURKEY	nr	nr	nr	nr
YUGOSLAVIA	na	na	na	na
EEC	nr	nr	nr	nr

nr = no information received

na = not applicable

Table VI

NUMBER OF REPORTS ON DUMPING UNDER GENERAL PERMITS  
1978-1982

Country	Industrial waste	Sewage	Dredge Spoil	Other
ALGERIA	nr	nr	nr	nr
CYPRUS	nr	nr	nr	nr
EGYPT	nr	nr	nr	nr
FRANCE	na	na	2	na
GREECE	nr	nr	nr	nr
ITALY	nr	nr	16	nr
LEBANON	nr	nr	nr	nr
LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA	nr	nr	nr	nr
MALTA	nr	nr	nr	nr
MONACO	na	na	na	na
MOROCCO	nr	nr	nr	nr
SPAIN	nr	nr	nr	nr
TUNISIA	nr	nr	nr	nr
TURKEY	nr	nr	nr	nr
YUGOSLAVIA	na	na	na	na
EEC	nr	nr	nr	nr

nr = no information received

na = not applicable

Table VII

AMOUNTS OF WASTE ACTUALLY DUMPED INTO THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA AREA<sup>1</sup>  
DURING 1981 AND 1982 IN MILLION TONNES

C O U N T R Y	INDUSTRIAL WASTE		SEWAGE SLUDGES		DREDGED SPOILS		OTHER	
	1981	1982	1981	1982	1981	1982	1981	1982
ALGERIA	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr
CYPRUS	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr
EGYPT	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr
FRANCE	0	0	0	0	0.398	nr	0	0
GREECE	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr
ITALY	nr	nr	nr	nr	1.395 <sup>1/2</sup>	nr	nr	nr
LEBANON	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr
LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr
MALTA	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr
MONACO	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
MOROCCO	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr
SPAIN	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr
TUNISIA	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr
TURKEY	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr	nr
YUGOSLAVIA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

<sup>1/</sup> in million cubic metre

<sup>2/</sup> includes part of 1980