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

Malta



Country information

Capital	Valletta
Languages	Maltese, English
Main Ports	Valletta, Marsaxlokk
Additional Ports	Marsamxett , , Mgarr
Coastline (km)	255.0
Imports (bbl/day)	17910.0
Fuel type	N/A
Offshore Production	☐

Contact list

In order to access to all contact details of government officials, focal points are invited to log in on the website with their credentials

Conventions

Approved

Regional Convention

Legal Instrument	Ratification	Implementation Transposition of the international intrument in the national legislation
Barcelona Convention	30/12/1977	
Emergency Protocol, 1976	30/12/1977	
Prevention and emergency protocol, 2002	18/02/2003	

International Convention

Legal Instrument	Ratification	Implementation Transposition of the international intrument in the national legislation
OPRC, 1990	21/01/2003	
OPRC-HNS Protocol, 2000	21/01/2003	☑
CLC 1992	06/01/2000	☑
FUND 1992	06/01/2000	☑
Bunker Convention, 2001	12/11/2008	
LLMC Protocol 96	13/02/2004	
Wreck Removal Convention, 2007	18/01/2015	

Unapproved

International Convention

1996 HNS Convention

LLMC 1976

SALVAGE 1989

INTERVENTION Protocol 1973

INTERVENTION 1969

FUND Protocol 2003

Offshore Protocol

SCP CEG

National & regional system - National & regional plan

National contingency plan

Approved	Drafted	Under preparation	None	Supported by REMPEC	Date
☑	☐	☐	☐	☐	01/12/2010

Test type	Full Scale Exercise
Test frequency	Once a year
Relevant national legislation adopting the plan	National Legislation to implement the OPRC convention (L.N 450/2020) entered in to force and enhanced further the applicability of the NMPCP.
The plan maintenance	National Marine Pollution Contingency Plan (NMPCP) is updated on a yearly basis.
Implementing the plan	Transport Malta was designated as the national competent authority to implement the NMPCP.

Subregional Agreements

National & regional system - response strategy

Monitoring and Evaluation

Satellite image	☑ Transport Malta received images from the European Marine Safety Agency through cleanseanet on a continous basis.
Aerial surveillance	☑ The Armed Forces of Malta organise regular aerial surveillance patrols around Malta's waters.
Naval surveillance	☑ The Armed Forces of Malta organise regular naval surveillance patrols around Malta's waters.
Forecasting models	☑ Trasnport Malta receives support from the University of Malta in relation to oil spill models.

Response at sea

Use of dispersant	☑ Response at sea is coordinated with Transport Malta in accordance with NMPCP
Aerial surveillance	☑ The use of oil spill dispersants is only allowed following prior official authorisation from Environment and Resource Authority (ERA). A new dispersant policy is currently being drafted.
Related Legislation	
Delimitation zones for the use of dispersants	
Authority in charge of authorisation identified	☑ The national competent authority for the use of dispersants is the Environment and Resource Authority.
Dispersant testing procedures	Testing of dispersants is carried out by the University of Malta according to standard criteria.
List of approved products	
List of competent laboratories authorized	
Containment and recovery	☑ In line with NMPCP
In situ burning	

Shoreline protection and cleanup

Shoreline protection	☑ In line with NMPCP
Shoreline cleanup	☑ In line with NMPCP

Comunication

Operation activities	☑ In line with NMPCP
Government/Industry relation	☑ In line with NMPCP
Public relation	☑ In line with NMPCP

Media relation	☑ In line with NMPCP

Waste management

National policy regarding oily waste	☑ Subsidiary legislation under the Environment Protection Act
Treatment/disposal facilities/solutions	☑ A waste oil disposal facility is available in the Port of Valletta.

Experts

Integration of international experts in the coordination body	☑ In accordance with The Civil Protection Act XV 0f 1999 (Cap 411) the Minister responsible for CPD should be the first person to be consulted in matters related to external assistance and any other issues related to the implementation of national strategic issues in disaster control and mitigation. Subject to agreement and liaising with the Ministry for Foreign Affairs and the Oil Spill Advisor, the OC will, as soon as possible, establish contact with ERCC and REMPEC to ascertain support available from EMSA, from Mediterranean countries that are signatories to the Co-operation Protocol and, if required, from other countries.

Claims

Claims legal basis at national level	☑ Oil Pollution (Liability and Compensation) Act. 17 December 1999
Claims included in the contingency plan	☑ In line with NMPCP
National structure dealing with claims	☑ In line with NMPCP

Volunteers management

Volunteers management considered in the plan	

Faune protection

Measures for faune protection (Protected species and other marine fauna)	☑ In line with Environment Protection Act (Click on the link to access the Sea Alarm Country Profile sheet providing information on wildlife protection in this country).

Expertise

Preparedness

		Expert and training Centres
Sensitivity mapping	☑ Oil ☑ Chemicals	
Risk assessment	☑ Oil ☑ Chemicals	
Contingency planning	☐ Oil ☐ Chemicals	
Training of personnel	☑ Oil ☐ Chemicals	

Response

	Expert and training Centres
Fire fighting	☑ The civil protection department is responsible for any fire fright operations. A number of harbour tug boats equipped with fire fighting equipment are available in Maltese Ports.
Response to oil spills at sea	☑ Response to oil spills at sea is coordinated by Transport Malta in line with the NMPCP.
Response to oil on shore	☑ Same as above.
Response to spills/releases of HNS	☑ Response to oil spills at sea is coordinated by Civil Protection Department in line with the NMPCP
Recovery of lost Packages of HNS	
Aerial Surveillance	☑ Response to oil spills at sea is coordinated by Armed Forces of Malta in line with the NMPCP.
Satellite images	☑ Satellite images are received through the European Safety Agency.
Overall emergency management	☑ Transport Malta are responsible for the overall management of pollution emergency.
Shoreline decontamination	
Modelling and forecasting	☑ University of Malta supports Transport Malta by modelling and forecasting pollution.
Impact - Wildlife and birds	
Impact - Fisheries/fish farming	☑ Transport Malta will liaise with the Department of fisheries and aquaculture in case of risks impacting fish farms.

	Expert and training Centres
Accident site restoration (oil)	☑ The Environment and Resource Authority are responsible to monitor site restoration.
Accident site restoration (chemicals)	☑ The Environment and Resource Authority are responsible to monitor accident site restoration.

Expertise and services

Company Name	Civil Protection Department, Director
Address (number, street, city)	CPD Ta' Kandia L/o Siggiewi
Telephone (24 hours a day)	+356 2393 0000
Mobile	
Telefax	+356 21 462 607
E-mail	civilprotection@gov.mt
Further details	

Trans-Boundary arrangements

Provider

To whom the request has to be addressed	
Full name of the institution	
Department or position	
Address (number, street, city)	
Telephone (24 hours a day)	
Telefax	
Working hours	
E-mail	

Boundary

To whom the request has to be addressed	
Financial conditions for expert services	
Restrictions (visa, etc.) concerning travel to any Mediterranean country? If yes, please indicate which countries	
Financial and other conditions (transportation, etc.) for making the equipment or product available to a requesting party	
Location of equipment and products and nearest port or airport (city/port, city/airport)	

Training and follow-up

REMPEC Focal points meeting

Year	Representative	Ministry/Department/Division
2007	Mr. Lino Vasallo, Executive Director Merchant Shipping	Malta Maritime Authority
2007	Mr. Mario Mifsud, Manager	Policy & Legislative Development Department, Malta Maritime Authority
2007	Mr. Victor Cini, Port Officer	Ports Directorate, Malta Maritime Authority
2005	Mr. Giovanni Miceli, Director	Multilateral Affairs Directorate, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
2005	Mr. John Buttigieg, First Secretary	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
2005	Mr. Mario Mifsud, Manager	Policy & Legislative Development Department, Malta Maritime Authority
2005	Mr. Victor Cini, Port Officer	Ports Directorate, Malta Maritime Authority
2003	Mr. Joseph Cole, Counsellor	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
2003	Mr. John Buttigieg, First Secretary	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
2000	Mr. Joseph Callus, Head, Pollution Control Co-ordinating Unit	Environment Protection Department, Pollution Control Co-ordinating Unit
2009	Mr. Richard Gabriele, Harbour Master	Malta Maritime Authority
2009	Mr. Gordon Cutajar, Assistant Registrar	Malta Maritime Authority
2009	Mr. Dale Hamilton, Co-ordination Manager	Malta Maritime Authority
2009	Mr. Keon Vella, Flag & Ports State Control Inspector	Merchant Shipping Directorate, Malta Maritime Authority
2011	Captain Richard Gabriele, Head, Pollution and Incident Response, Ports and Yachting Directorate	Transport Malta
2011	Dr Gordon Cutajar, Assistant Registrar of Ships, Merchant Shipping Directorate	Transport Malta
2011	Dr Charles Galea, Senior Scientific Officer	Maltese Resources Authority

Regional activities

Date	Activity name	Country participant name
05/2009	Regional Government and Industry Workshop on Cooperation, Preparedness for and Response to Oil Spills in the Mediterranean Sea - 11-12 May 2009, Marseille, France.	Mr. Godwin Sant, Captain Richard Gabriele, Malta
03/2000	MEDEXPOL 99/2 Regional Training Course on New Techniques for Shoreline Pollution (Oil/Chemical) Clean-up - In Brest, France 21-25 March 2000	Mr. Anthony Mallia, Malta
11/2000	MEDEXPOL 2000 – Regional Seminar for Government Administrators and Senior Managers (on Accidental Marine Pollution preparedness and response) - Naples, Italy, 6-10 November 2000	Mr. Anthony Mallia, Malta

Date	Activity name	Country participant name
12/2001	MEDEXPOL 2001 – Regional Training Course on Prevention, Preparedness and Response to accidents involving hazardous substances at ship-shore interface - Genoa, Italy, 10-14 December 2001	Mr. Mario Mifsud, Mr. Patrick Murgo, Malta
10/2002	MEDIPOL 2002 6 Regional Seminar on response to Oil and Chemical spills for Governments Administrators and Senior Managers -Malta, 29 October -2 November 2002	Mr. Anthony Mallia, Mr. Emmanuel Bonnici, Mr. Albert Tabone, Malta
11/2003	MEDIPOL 2003 – European Workshop on Satellite Imagery and illicit oil spills in Europe and in the Mediterranean and Field activities in Rognac, Marseilles - Toulon, France, 2 – 4 October 2003	Mr. Anthony Mallia, Mr, Victor Cini, Lebanon
12/2004	Regional Alert Exercise MEDIPOLEX 2004, organized in close collaboration with the national Focal Point of Cyprus, held on 7-8 December 2004.	All Contracting Parties participated
10/2005	MEDEXPOL 2005 – Regional Seminar on the use of Remote Sensing in Oil Pollution Control, Nicosia, Cyprus, 17-20 October 2005	Major Claudio Spiteri, Malta

National activities

Date	Activity name
11/2002	National Training Course on Strategies for Effective Marine Chemical Spill Response in Port Areas and Their Approaches, Ta' Kandja, Malta, 7-9 January 2002
01/2007	EMSA Exercise, 2007
01/2008	EMSA Exercise 2008
01/2018	National training on pollution response. Over 125 personnel from the following entiities; Transport Malta, Civil Protection Department, Environment and Resource Authority, Armed Forces of Malta, Environmental Health Directorate were trained on pollution response in accordance with IMO OPRC model courses.

Prevention

Internation Conventions of prevention

Approved

Legal Instrument	Ratification	Implementation Transposition of the international intrument in the national legislation
LC 1972	28/12/1989	
AFS 2001	27/03/2009	
SOLAS 74	08/08/1986	☑ Merchant Shipping (Safety Convention) Rules
SOLAS Protocol 78	08/08/1986	☑ Merchant Shipping (Safety Convention) Rules
SOLAS Protocol 88	28/01/1999	☑ Merchant Shipping (Safety Convention) Rules
Load Line 1966	11/09/1974	☑ Merchant Shipping (Load Line Convention) Rules
Load Line Protocol 1988	28/01/1999	☑ Merchant Shipping (Load Line Convention) Rules
TONNAGE 69	20/03/1989	☑ Tonnage Regulations
COLREG 72	20/03/1989	☑ Prevention of Collisions Regulations

Legal Instrument	Ratification	Implementation Transposition of the international intrument in the national legislation
STCW 78	21/06/1991	☑ Merchant Shipping (A.B. and E.D.H. Certificates) Regulations, Merchant Shipping (Training and Certification) Regulations
UNCLOS	20/05/1993	☑ Territorial Waters and Contiguous Zone Act, Continental Shelf Act, Malta-Libya Continental Shelf Delimitation (Ratification) Act, Designation of the Continental Shelf Area Order, Fisheries Conservation and Management Act, Criminal Code, Merchant Shipping Act, White Slave Traffic (Suppression) Ordinance, Ports and Shipping Act
BWM 2004	07/09/2017	☑ Merchant Shipping (Ballast Water Management C
MARPOL Annex I & Annex II	21/06/1991	☑ Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Pollution from Ships) Regulation
MARPOL Annex III	13/02/2004	☑ Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Pollution from Ships) Regulation
MARPOL Annex IV	30/03/2011	☑ Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Pollution by Sewage) Regulations
MARPOL Annex V	13/02/2004	☑ Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Pollution by Garbage) Regulations
MARPOL Annex VI	30/03/2011	☑ Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Pollution from Ships) Regulation

Unapproved

Legal Instrument	Implementation Transposition of the international intrument in the national legislation
LC Protocol 1996	
SCP B&H-CRO	

Sanctions for violations

The Administration has the necessary national laws in force to ensure the provision of sanctions of adequate severity to discourage violation of international instruments to which the State is a Party	☑
If yes, how are violations followed up and what are the sanctions (for example, type of fines) imposed?	Violations are followed by an investigation followed by a report. Territorial Waters & Contiguous Zone Act; Subsidiary Legislation - Ship-Source Pollution Regulations -

Ship inspections

Periodic inspections of own ships	
The Administration has the necessary national laws in force to provide for ship inspections, and detaining, to ensure compliance with international maritime safety and pollution prevention standards, to which the State is a Party	☐
If yes, how many number of ships are inspected annually and how many of these have resulted in detaining the ship?	2019- Inspections 967/ Detentions 22

Number of ships detained by PSC in the last 3 years	
Number of ships detained under the Med MoU	17
Number of ships detained under the Paris MoU	
Number of ships detained under the Tokyo MoU	
Number of ships detained under the USCG	22
Port State Control Inspections	
Port State Control Inspections are carried out in your ports	☑
If yes, how many PSC inspections are carried out annually?	2019 - 184 Inspections
Delegation of Authority to Recognised Organizations (ROs)	
The Administration has the necessary national laws, including necessary Agreements, in force to delegate authority to ROs	☑
What procedures are in place to monitor the work of the ROs?	Yes
Provide list of ROs to whom delegation of authority is granted through such an Agreement.	American Bureau of Shipping (ABS), Bureau Veritas (BV), China Classification Society (CCS), Croatian Register of Shipping (CRS), Det Norske Veritas Germanischer Lloyd (DNVGL), Korean Register of Shipping (KRS), Lloyds Register (LR), Nippon Kaiji Kyokai (NKK), Polish Register of Shipping (PRS), Registro Italiano Navale (RINA), Russian Maritime Register of Shipping (RMRS), Indian Register of Shipping (IRS).

Casuality investigations

The Administration has the necessary national laws in force to carry out the required casualty investigations	☑
Number of reported groundings in the last 3 years	3
Number of reported collisions in the last 3 years	24
Number of reported casualties resulting in pollution incidents in the last 3 years	4

MARPOL implementation

MARPOL Infringements	
The Administration has the necessary national laws in force to ensure the provision of sanctions of adequate severity with respect to MARPOL infringements	☑
If yes, how are infringements followed up and what are the sanctions imposed?	Infringements are followed by an inspection. Merchant Shipping Act; Subsidiary Legislation - Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Pollution from Ships) Regulations (see Annex 2); Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Pollution by Garbage) Regulations (see Annex 3), Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Pollution by Sewage) Regulations (see Annex 4)

Port Reception Facilities

Port	MARPOL Annex I	MARPOL Annex II	MARPOL Annex IV	MARPOL Annex V	MARPOL Annex VI
Valletta	●		●	●	
Marsaxlokk	●		●	●	

Surveillance of coastal waters	
Surveillance of the waters under your jurisdiction is carried out	☑
If yes, what are the methods and resources available to carry out such surveillance?	Helicopter and Plane (Air Patrol), Patrol Vessels (Sea Patrol), EMSA CleanSeaNet (Remote Sensing), VTS and AIS coverage.

Resources

Organigramme	
Number of Offices, non-technical, technical staff	
Head Office (provide full address and contact details)	Transport Malta, Merchant Shipping Directorate, Malta Transport Centre, Hal Lija, LJA 2021 - Tel: +356 2125 0360, Email: mershipmalta.tm@transport.gov.mt
Number of other Offices (provide full address and contact details of all offices)	N/A
Number of non-technical staff	76 (This number covers all staff dealing with support)
Number of technical Staff	26
Number of Inspectors (Flag State Surveyors and Port State Inspectors)	26 Flag State and Port State Control Inspectors
Number of flag State Casualty Investigators	4