

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

REMPEC/WG.16/5/1
19 October 1998

Original: English

Malta, 25 - 28 November 1996

Agenda Item 5.1

DIRECTORIES, LISTS, INVENTORIES AND CATALOGUE

Note by REMPEC

1. During the period between the last Meeting of REMPEC Focal Points, held in Malta from 22 to 26 October 1998, which reviewed the state of publication of various directories, lists and inventories included in Part B of the Regional Information System, and the present Meeting, REMPEC continued to update and revise information included in this part of RIS.

2. Three Sections of Part B were updated in 1998 and finalized prior to the Meeting. A more detailed description of the status of Part B of the Regional Information System is given in document REMPEC/WG.16/INF.10. The Meeting might wish to take note also of the information provided in document REMPEC/WG.16/INF.9, which describes tools, essential for the updating and production of documents contained in Part B of RIS, that were developed by REMPEC since the last Meeting of Focal Points.

SECTION 1: Directory of competent national authorities in charge of accidental marine pollution preparedness, response and mutual assistance and other relevant information. (RIS/B/1).

3. Almost permanent changes in names, addresses, telephone and fax numbers of national authorities listed in this Section, together with some other factors including in particular the shortage of staff at the Centre, rendered regular publication of updated versions of this document very difficult. However, on the basis of currently available information, and using the newly developed Centre's relational database, described in document REMPEC/WG.16/5, an updated edition was recently finalized and distributed to national delegations at the present Meeting.

SECTION 2: Inventory of Centres of expertise and Centres of Resources (manpower, equipment and products) which can be put, under certain conditions, at the disposal of a State, which so requests, in cases of emergency. (RIS/B/2).

4. In June 1998 REMPEC disseminated to its Focal Points a new and revised questionnaire aimed at compiling data for entering into the new edition of the Inventory. Information provided by competent national authorities has been sorted out and entered into the Centre's new computerized database (cf. REMPEC/WG.16/5 and REMPEC/WG.16/INF.9). The updated and completely revised edition of the Inventory has been distributed to the national delegations at the present Meeting, and will be disseminated to all REMPEC Focal Points immediately after the Meeting.

5. In order to ensure that information appearing in Sections 1 and 2 respectively of Part B of the Regional Information System is always correct and accurate, national Focal Points of the Contracting Parties are encouraged to inform REMPEC of any changes in data pertinent to their countries and included in these two Sections, as soon as these occur.

SECTION 4: Directory of companies offering services in the Mediterranean in case of emergency. (RIS/B/4).

6. With a view to updating the Directory of companies, REMPEC revised the relevant questionnaire and sent it in June 1998 to the companies already included in the previous edition of the Directory, as well as to a number of new ones. The new edition of the Directory has been prepared on the basis of the received replies. It features slightly modified lay-out aimed at providing a better understanding of the type of services offered by companies included in it. It is expected that the new edition will be finalized for distribution at the Meeting.

Action requested of the Meeting of Focal Points

7. The Meeting is invited to take note of, examine and comment on the new versions of relevant Sections of Part B of the Regional Information System.