

6th Meeting of the Focal Points of the
Regional Marine Pollution Emergency
Response Centre for the Mediterranean
Sea (REMPEC)

REMPEC/WG.21/4/1
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Agenda Item 4

**MEDA PROJECT ON "PORT RECEPTION FACILITIES FOR COLLECTING
SHIP GENERATED GARBAGE, BILGE WATER AND OILY WASTES"**

Note by REMPEC

Introduction

1. On behalf of the International Maritime Organization (IMO), the Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC) is implementing the MEDA project on Port Reception Facilities in the Mediterranean, financed by the European Commission MEDA Fund. The Project addresses ten beneficiary countries, Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention (Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt, Israel, Lebanon, Syria, Turkey, Cyprus and Malta) and aims at facilitating the implementation of Annex I and Annex V of the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL 73/78).

Objective of the Project

2. The objective of the Project, which is now being extended from two to three years, is first to identify the existing situation and needs regarding port reception facilities in the Mediterranean countries covered by the Project. On the basis of the results of this first activity, a study proposing optimum solutions for collecting ship-generated wastes will be prepared. Finally, standard designs will be produced for port reception facilities and waste treatment plants that could be made available free of charge to all Mediterranean coastal States involved, for implementation in their ports. At the end of the Project, a Regional Seminar will be organised to discuss the results of the Project and to recommend a course of action for future implementation.

Execution of the Project

3. The main activities of the Project are scheduled to take place in 2003 and 2004. REMPEC has contracted a consultancy firm, Environmental Protection Engineering (EPE) S.A. of Greece, to carry out the first phase of the Project which will identify the existing reception facilities capacities and needs of the relative ports/terminals of the beneficiary countries. As a result, EPE S.A. is carrying out missions in all the countries involved in the Project according to a schedule set out in Annex to this document.

4. REMPEC has already informed its Focal Points as well as the Maritime /Ports Administrations of the beneficiary countries, that the port reception facilities needs assessment missions were commencing and, prior to each mission, REMPEC will be contacting the country concerned to ensure that the consultants are afforded the maximum assistance and co-operation.

5. For a better efficiency of the consultancy and with a view to obtaining the optimum results with regard to the situation and needs assessment in each of the beneficiary countries, it is strongly recommended that all Focal Points, as well as all the authorities involved, supply the necessary support and assistance to the consultancy firm in the organization of the mission. In this regard, REMPEC would appreciate if Focal Points could come into preliminary contacts with the relevant competent national authorities (including Maritime/Port Authorities) and inform them about the purpose and current stage of the Project, and of the dates of the Consultants' mission in their respective countries. It is also proposed that each country designates an officer to assist the Consultants during their mission/s in the country. In this regard, it may be recalled that the twelfth Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention invited the Parties to the Convention "to support REMPEC's efforts to implement the programme of activities under the EC/MEDA project on port reception facilities".

Monitoring of the Project

6. The Project involves four Mediterranean EU members States (Spain, France, Italy and Greece) as EU partners from whom full support to the Project is assumed in view of their experience in the field. This support is specifically provided through the participation of the EU partner's representatives in the meetings of the Steering Committee of the Project, which was set up to follow-up the execution of the Project, especially in providing guidance and ensuring compatibility of the results with relevant European and international legislation as well as coordination between the activities carried out under the Project and the relevant activities undertaken in the Mediterranean EU members States. In this regard, the EU partners are inter alia expected to provide information and documentation regarding the implementation of the port waste reception facilities Directive 2000/59/EC in their countries.

Further developments

7. REMPEC will endeavour to possibly extend the outcome of this Project to the ports of other Mediterranean countries which are not participating in the MEDA Project and, in this regard, a specific budget allocation provided in REMPEC's budget as well as additional external funding will be utilized to finance the extension of the activities of this Project to other countries. This approach, which is also envisaged to gain the full support of the EU partners, should facilitate the implementation of MARPOL 73/78 in the whole Mediterranean region. It is the objective of REMPEC that during the Regional Seminar to be organized at the end of the MEDA Project, which will bring together all the parties, including representatives of the four EU partners and Mediterranean countries which are not eligible under the MEDA mechanism, the existing overall situation of port reception facilities in the Mediterranean will be presented.

The Meeting of Focal Points is invited to:

- a) take note of the information provided by REMPEC on the MEDA Project on Port Reception Facilities, and in particular of the dates of the Consultants' mission in their respective countries;
- b) reaffirm its support to this Project; and
- c) endorse the proposal of designating an appropriate officer to assist the Consultants during their missions.

ANNEX

Schedule of Missions to the Beneficiary Countries of the MEDA Project

Country	Dates	Names of Consultants
Lebanon	2 – 8 February	A. Syrigos
Egypt	16 – 26 February	S. Volakis & A. Syrigos
Morocco	11 – 18 March	V. Mamaloukas - Frangoulis
Syria	12 – 20 March	S. Georgiadis & M. Aggelopoulos
Malta	17 – 20 March	H. Polychronopoulos & S. Volakis
Turkey (1 st visit)	20 - 25 March	S. Skarvelis
Algeria (1 st visit)	30 March – 11 April	V. Mamaloukas - Frangoulis
Tunisia	7 – 13 April	H. Polychronopoulos & S. Volakis
Turkey (2 nd visit)	17 - 26 April	S. Skarvelis
Israel	2 – 6 May	S. Skarvelis
Algeria (2 nd visit)	7 – 13 May	V. Mamaloukas - Frangoulis