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UNEP-PNUE

REGIONAL MARINE POLLUTION EMERGENCY  
RESPONSE CENTRE FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA (REMPEC)

CENTRE REGIONAL MEDITERRANEEN POUR L'INTERVENTION  
D'URGENCE CONTRE LA POLLUTION MARINE ACCIDENTELLE (REMPEC)

MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN  
PLAN D'ACTION POUR LA MEDITERRANEE



8<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Focal Points of the  
Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response  
Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC)

REMPEC/WG.28/3/2  
9 March 2007

Malta, 7-11 May 2007

Original: English

Agenda Item 3

### **ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA**

#### **Introduction**

1. The 8<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Focal Points of the Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC) has been convened in Malta between the 7 and 11 May 2007, pursuant to the decision of the 14<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention which agreed that a Meeting of REMPEC Focal Points be organized during the 2006 – 2007 biennium (UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG.16/13, Portoroz, Slovenia, 8 - 11 November 2005).

2. The principal objectives of the 8<sup>th</sup> Meeting of REMPEC Focal Points will be:

- a) to examine the implementation of the programme of activities of REMPEC since the 7<sup>th</sup> Focal Points Meeting; and
- b) to discuss and propose the programme of priority activities of REMPEC for the biennium 2008-2009.

3. All REMPEC official Governmental Focal Points have been invited to participate in the Meeting and in view of the fact that the Meeting is expected to endorse draft texts and take position on policy issues that will be reported to the next Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties for possible adoption in December 2007, national Focal Points were invited to nominate jointly and in consultation with all national authorities concerned their representatives in the Meeting. The participation in national delegations of observers representing the oil, chemical, port and shipping industries has been strongly encouraged. The invitation to attend the Meeting was also extended to the specialized agencies of the United Nations, other governmental and non-governmental organizations, as well as to the international professional organizations and associations whose activities are relevant for the work of REMPEC.

4. The provisional agenda of the Meeting has been circulated as REMPEC/WG.28/3/1 and a draft timetable prepared by the Centre appears in document REMPEC/WG.28/3/3.

5. In order to assist the Meeting in its work, REMPEC prepared the following annotations to the proposed provisional agenda of the Meeting.

**Agenda Item 1**      **Opening of the Meeting**

6. The 8<sup>th</sup> Meeting of REMPEC Focal Points will be opened at 09.00 hours on Monday, 7 May 2007.

**Agenda Item 2**      **Organization of the Meeting**

**2.1**      **Rules of Procedure**

7. The Rules of procedure for Meetings and Conferences of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution and its related Protocols (UNEP/IG.43/6, Annex XI) shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to the deliberations of this Meeting.

**2.2**      **Election of Officers**

8. The Meeting of Focal Points will be invited to elect a Chairperson, a vice-Chairperson and a Rapporteur.

9.      **2.3**      **Working Languages**

10. The working languages of the Meeting will be English and French. Simultaneous English/French/English interpretation will be provided during the Meeting. The working documents will be available in both official languages of the Centre, i.e. in English and in French.

**Agenda Item 3**      **Adoption of the Agenda**

11. The agenda, as proposed in document REMPEC/WG.28/3/1 and annotated in the present document, will be proposed for adoption by the Meeting of Focal Points. The Meeting will be invited to agree on a timetable to carry out its work. A draft timetable is proposed in document REMPEC/WG.28/3/3.

**Agenda Item 4**      **Progress Report on REMPEC's activities since the 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting of REMPEC Focal Points**

12. The Meeting will be informed of the present status of implementation of REMPEC's activities since the 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting of REMPEC Focal Points.

13. The Director of REMPEC will introduce document REMPEC/WG.28/4: Progress report on REMPEC's activities since the 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting of REMPEC Focal Points, which contains an outline of the activities carried out by the Centre since the last Meeting of the Focal Points held in Malta in April 2005.

14. Contracting Parties will be invited to inform the Meeting of any relevant activities carried out in their respective countries or within the EC since the 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting of REMPEC Focal Points.

**The Meeting of Focal Points will be invited** to comment and take note of the progress made in the implementation of REMPEC's activities.

**Agenda Item 5**      **Implementation of the SAFEMED Project**

15. In accordance with a service contract signed in October 2005 between the European Commission (EC) and the International Maritime Organization (IMO) on behalf of REMPEC, the Centre is currently implementing a three year EU-funded MEDA Regional Project entitled "Euromed Cooperation on Maritime Safety and Prevention of Pollution from Ships – SAFEMED" (MED 2005/109-573). The project, which was developed within the framework of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership, is being implemented in ten Mediterranean Partners and addresses a number of important issues particularly in the field of prevention of pollution from ships, some of which are also included in the Regional Strategy for Prevention of and Response to Marine Pollution from Ships. The Secretariat will present document REMPEC/WG.28/5 which provides information on the project activities implemented in 2006 and on the activities planned for 2007 and 2008.

**The Meeting of Focal Points will be invited** to take note of the information provided and to take it into consideration during the deliberations on Agenda Item 11 (Proposed programme of REMPEC activities for biennium 2008/2009).

**Agenda Item 6**      **Draft Guidelines on places of refuge for ships in need of assistance in the Mediterranean**

16. In line with Specific Objective 12 of the Regional Strategy for Prevention of and Response to Marine Pollution from Ships and with a view to assisting Mediterranean coastal States in designating places of refuge, REMPEC has, within the framework of the EU-funded SAFEMED Project, commissioned a consultant to prepare a set of procedures and guidelines that could be followed by Mediterranean coastal States during the decision making process concerning the designation of places of refuge for ships in need of assistance. The consultant's report, containing procedures, guidelines and other relevant information, was presented and discussed during a three day Regional Workshop on Places of Refuge organised by REMPEC in Barcelona, Spain between the 28 and 30 November 2006. The Secretariat will introduce document REMPEC/WG.28/6 containing the final draft Guidelines on the Decision Making Process for Granting Access to a Place of Refuge for Ships in Need of Assistance, which have been prepared by REMPEC on the basis of the work of the consultant and taking into consideration the comments and proposals made by representatives of the Contracting Parties during the above-mentioned Regional Workshop.

**The Meeting of Focal Points will be invited** to endorse the final draft Guidelines on the Decision Making Process for Granting Access to a Place of Refuge for Ships in Need of Assistance and to propose it for adoption by the next Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention.

**Agenda Item 7**      **Draft Guidelines concerning the protection of the marine environment and pleasure craft activities in the Mediterranean**

17. The Secretariat will present document REMPEC/WG.28/7 outlining the process leading to the preparation of the final draft of the Guidelines concerning Pleasure Craft Activities and the Protection of the Marine Environment in the Mediterranean. In particular, the document focuses on the work carried out by the Centre since the 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting of REMPEC Focal Points as mandated by the 14<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention, to develop guidelines on pollution from pleasure craft activities based on the relative set of Principles adopted by the said Meeting of the Contracting Parties. The Secretariat will also briefly introduce the final draft of the Guidelines concerning Pleasure Craft Activities and the Protection of the Marine Environment in the Mediterranean that was agreed upon during the Meeting of National Experts on the Draft Guidelines concerning Pleasure Craft Activities and the Protection of the Marine Environment in the Mediterranean (REMPEC/WG.27/6, Monaco, 13-15 February 2007).

**The Meeting of Focal Points will be invited** to endorse the final draft of the Guidelines concerning Pleasure Craft Activities and the Protection of the Marine Environment in the Mediterranean, to be submitted to the 15<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention.

**Agenda Item 8**      **Developments in the field of port reception facilities**

18. The Secretariat will present document REMPEC/WG.28/8 which provides information on REMPEC's activities in the field of port reception facilities in the Mediterranean region and proposes further possible follow up action related to the coming into effect of the Special Area status of the Mediterranean Sea with regard to MARPOL Annex V.

**The Meeting of Focal Points will be invited** to take note of the information provided and consider, discuss and decide upon the proposed course of action aimed at entrusting REMPEC with the co-ordination of the action at the regional level with a view to give effect to the Special Area status of the Mediterranean Sea with regard to MARPOL Annex V.

**Agenda Item 9**      **Recent marine pollution incidents in the Mediterranean Sea**

19. Under this agenda item the Secretariat will present documents related to recent marine pollution incidents in the Mediterranean Sea, highlighting their implications on technical and policy issues such as the Mediterranean Assistance Unit (MAU) and the Mediterranean Technical Working Group (MTWG), and providing information on the new marine pollution response capacities in the Mediterranean region.

**The Meeting of Focal Points will be invited** to take note of the information provided in the documents and consider the proposals of the Secretariat.

**Agenda Item 10**      **Dissemination of information**

20. The Secretariat will present document REMPEC/WG.28/10 summarising the procedures presently followed by the Centre with regard to dissemination of information related to the activities of REMPEC and proposing possible improvements.

**The Meeting of Focal Points will be invited** to consider the proposals of the Secretariat related to dissemination of information.

**Agenda Item 11**      **Proposed programme of REMPEC activities for biennium 2008/2009**

21. The Director of REMPEC will present document REMPEC/WG.28/11 containing a proposed programme of activities to be implemented by the Centre during the biennium 2008/2009.

**The Meeting of Focal Points will be invited** to consider the proposed programme of activities and agree upon a programme of REMPEC activities for the biennium 2008/2009, to be submitted for adoption by the next Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention.

**Agenda Item 12**      **Other business**

22. The Meeting of Focal Points will be invited to consider any other matters that may be raised under this agenda item.

**Agenda Item 13**      **Adoption of the Report of the Meeting**

23.      A draft report of the Meeting will be submitted to the participants for adoption.

**Agenda Item 14**      **Closure of the Meeting**

24.      The Meeting is expected to be closed by the Chairperson at 12.30 hours on Friday, 11 May 2007.