



**MEDITERRANEAN ACTION PLAN (MAP)
REGIONAL MARINE POLLUTION EMERGENCY RESPONSE CENTRE FOR THE
MEDITERRANEAN SEA (REMPEC)**

10th Meeting of the Focal Points of the Regional
Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre
for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC)

REMPEC/WG.32/6
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Agenda Item 6

**DEVELOPMENTS RELATED TO THE EUROPEAN UNION (EU) FUNDED
MEDA REGIONAL TRANSPORT PROJECT**

**“EUROMED COOPERATION ON MARITIME SAFETY AND PREVENTION
OF POLLUTION FROM SHIPS – SAFEMED”**

Note by the Secretariat

SUMMARY

Executive Summary: This document provides information on the status of implementation of the EU-funded regional SAFEMED Project which REMPEC is implementing in the Mediterranean region.

Action to be taken: Paragraph 16

Related documents: REMPEC/WG.32/10
REMPEC/WG.30/8

Background

1. During the 9th Meeting of Focal Points of REMPEC, the Secretariat had provided information on the implementation of the three year European Union (EU) financed MEDA¹ regional transport project entitled “EUROMED COOPERATION ON MARITIME SAFETY AND PREVENTION OF POLLUTION FROM SHIPS – SAFEMED II”, which REMPEC had just started implementing in ten Euromed Mediterranean partners² namely, Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestinian Authority, Syria, Tunisia and Turkey, and which commenced on the 1 January 2009.

2. It should be recalled that the SAFEMED Project is a response to the interest of the EU to develop Euro-Mediterranean co-operation in the field of maritime safety and security and prevention of pollution from ships by providing technical advice and support to the non-EU Mediterranean partners identified in the 1995 Barcelona Process. The main objective is to mitigate the existing

¹ The MEDA programme is the principal financial instrument of the European Union for the implementation of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership. The programme offers technical and financial support measures to accompany the reform of economic and social structures in the Mediterranean Partners.

² Refers to the "Mediterranean Partners" as defined in the 1995 Euro-Mediterranean Partnership (Barcelona Process) and constitutes a wide framework of political, economic and social relations between the Member States of the European Union and Partners of the Southern Mediterranean.

imbalance in the application of maritime legislation in the region between the EU and non-EU Mediterranean partners, through promoting a coherent, effective and uniform implementation of the relevant international conventions and rules aimed at better protecting the marine environment in the Mediterranean region by preventing pollution from ships.

3. It is to be noted that the SAFEMED II Project is a follow-up to the SAFEMED I Project, which was implemented between 1 January 2006 and 30 June 2009. The operational implementation phase of the SAFEMED I Project was originally scheduled to end on the 31 December 2008, however, the implementation phase was officially extended up to the end of June 2009 in order to enable REMPEC to finalise and conclude the implementation of the last few remaining SAFEMED I Project tasks.

4. It is to be noted that in April 2010 the European Commission (EC) decided to integrate, into the SAFEMED II Project, four Western Balkan States, namely, Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Croatia and Montenegro, and consequently a number of project tasks were also extended to these countries.

Implementation of SAFEMED II Project Activities

5. The SAFEMED II Project, being a follow-up to the SAFEMED I Project, had the same objectives of the SAFEMED I Project. In order to achieve these objectives, most of the SAFEMED II Project's main areas of activities remained the same as those of the SAFEMED I Project, namely, flag State implementation, safety of navigation, protection of the marine environment, and security of ships and port facilities. However, having taken note of the results obtained and the experiences gained from the implementation of the SAFEMED I Project, new activities related to the Awareness and Visibility of the Project and to Port State Control were introduced in the SAFEMED II Project. Moreover, the Project also includes a specific task and a related financial provision for the procurement of equipment related to traffic monitoring.

6. Most of the activities of the SAFEMED II Project are within the scope of some of the specific objectives of the Regional Strategy for Prevention of and Response to Marine Pollution from Ships, and taking this into consideration, when possible, a number of project tasks have been extended to other Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention which are not benefiting from the Project. Moreover, these Contracting Parties also benefited indirectly from several studies and guidelines commissioned within the framework of the Project and which are of interest to all Mediterranean coastal States.

7. During the initial phase of implementation of the SAFEMED II Project, 'Awareness Seminars' were organised in most of the Project beneficiaries with the aim of highlighting the Project's objectives and its main activities, the role of the European Union and the expected commitment by the beneficiaries. Other field missions to the beneficiaries were carried out in order to update information on Vessel Traffic Monitoring and Information Systems (VTMIS) already gathered under the SAFEMED I Project, and to assist the beneficiaries in assessing their needs in respect of their maritime security training capacity. Questionnaires for the collection of new data and/or for the updating of information already gathered under the SAFEMED I Project, were also used for other topics, including, Port State Control Officers (PSCOs), phasing out of Single Hull Oil Tankers, places of refuge, and Maritime Security and Recognised Security Organizations.

8. A large number of Government officials from the project beneficiaries and sometimes also from other Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention have participated in a number of Seminars and Workshops, both of a regional and a national nature, that have so far been organised, including the following:

- National Workshops on the Voluntary IMO Member State Audit Scheme (VIMSAS) organised in Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Syria and Turkey ;
- Seminar on the Recognised Organizations (ROs);
- Regional Workshops on the implementation of the revised MARPOL Annex II & III and on MARPOL Annex VI; and
- Two Annual Workshops on Maritime Security.

9. Since the beginning of the SAFEMED Project in 2006, twenty-five students from eight beneficiaries have so far been awarded long-term scholarships financed by the Project to follow postgraduate courses of study at the IMO International Maritime Law Institute (IMLI) in Malta and at

the World Maritime University (WMU) in Malmo, Sweden.

10. As indicated earlier, one of the main activities under the SAFEMED II Project, and which was not included in the SAFEMED I Project, was the activity on Port State Control. This Activity incorporates a number of tasks aimed at enhancing the work of the Mediterranean MoU on Port State Control, which includes as its members all of the SAFEMED II Project beneficiaries. These tasks include training of PSCOs, upgrading of the IT infrastructure of the Med MoU Information Centre which is located in Casablanca, Morocco, and the delivery of the 'Rule Check' software and laptops to the PSCOs.

11. The activity on safety of navigation of the SAFEMED II Project is directly related to the VTMS, in particular, the Automatic Identification System (AIS). The main objective of this activity was to assist the Project beneficiaries in the sharing of AIS data amongst themselves using the Mediterranean Regional AIS server located in Rome, Italy. This 'pilot project' could pave the way for a future exchange of AIS data with the EU member States and hence the establishment of an AIS Regional Network covering the whole of the Mediterranean region. The procurement of equipment is also linked to this activity.

12. With a view to ensuring the visibility of the Project and the dissemination of information, the Project has pursued the regular publication of a quarterly Project newsletter entitled "The SAFEMED Beacon" in an electronic and printed format. The Project has also embarked on the continuous updating of the reconstructed SAFEMED Project website (www.safemedproject.org).

13. At the time of writing the present document, the SAFEMED II Project implementation was well underway and on schedule and when the Project is concluded it is anticipated that the very large majority of the tasks of the Project will have been implemented. A status report on the activities implemented during the period January 2009 - February 2011 is set out in the Annex to the present document.

Follow-up of the SAFEMED II Project

14. While it is expected that most of the tasks of the SAFEMED II Project will be completed by 31 December 2011, the current contractual end date of the Project, as it is anticipated that there will be a balance of unspent project funds at the end of the project, REMPEC has proposed to the European Commission (EC) to extend the Project by one year. This extension would allow to implement further already listed tasks and also add new tasks. The proposed activities build on the results achieved so far and are designed in line with the Project's objectives. The extension would also benefit the Centre by expanding the scope of its activities in the field of prevention of pollution from ships at a time of budgetary constraints.

15. REMPEC understands that the European Commission (EC) is currently considering a third phase for the SAFEMED Project. The Centre has expressed its willingness to share its experience with the Commission in the elaboration of this third phase and, in view of results achieved so far, is looking forward to the possibility of continued cooperation. At the same time it is understood that the EC has proposed to amend the founding regulations of the European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA) in order to give the Agency the capacity to technically assist third countries within the context of the European Neighbourhood Policy. The respective role of EMSA and REMPEC in a follow-up to the Safemed II Project is still to be decided.

16. **The Meeting of Focal Points is invited to** take note of the information provided and to take it into consideration during the deliberations on Agenda Item 10 (Proposed programme of work of REMPEC for biennium 2012/2013) as well as to comment as deemed appropriate.

ANNEX

**STATUS REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SAFEMED II PROJECT ACTIVITIES
DURING THE PERIOD JANUARY 2009 – 31 MARCH 2011**

Activity 1 Joint efforts towards the realisation of the SAFEMED objectives, increased awareness and visibility		
Task N°	Title	Status
1.1	Establishment of an overview of the Maritime Administrations	Completed: Report containing country profiles of the ten beneficiaries was forwarded to the EC in October 2009. Important reference documents have been uploaded on the new SAFEMED Project website in November 2009.
1.2	Kick-off meeting with press release	Merged with Task 1.7
1.3	Awareness Seminars focusing on the specific SAFEMED II activities and EU policies	Completed: Eight Awareness Seminars were held in Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Syria, and Tunisia.
1.4	Updating of the information provided by the Geographical Information System (GIS)	Ongoing: Data for 2008-2009 was purchased from LMIU and will be integrated in the GIS in the first quarter of 2011.

Activity 1 Joint efforts towards the realisation of the SAFEMED objectives, increased awareness and visibility		
Task N°	Title	Status
1.5	SAFEMED Visibility	<p>Ongoing: Website: New website (English version) launched in November 2009. Updating, French version and other minor tasks are ongoing.</p> <p>Newsletter: The first SAFEMED quarterly electronic newsletter, 'The SAFEMED Beacon' has been launched/ published. The first issue, which was also printed, was launched during the presentation of the SAFEMED Project during the 26th IMO Assembly. 2nd, 3rd and 4th Newsletters were issued (electronic & printed format) in March, June and October respectively. The 5th Newsletter was published in January 2011. Copies distributed according to the distribution list and during SAFEMED II Project events as well as during selected IMO meetings.</p> <p>Public Relations: In November 2009, BPC International Ltd, was contracted to provide visibility and communication services for the SAFEMED II Project. Monthly meetings are held with BPC. Targeted countries for 2010 for press articles were Turkey, Syria, Jordan and Israel as well as pan Arab newspapers published in London. Press releases and write-ups are issued regularly.</p>
1.6	Improved knowledge of maritime English	<p>Completed: CD containing MarEng learning tool in Maritime English has been distributed to all the beneficiaries, courtesy of the MarEng Project which is partially funded by the EU. This learning tool is also available on the SAFEMED Project website through a direct link to the MarEng website. An updated version of the tool will be made available, also with the courteous authorization of the MarEng Project.</p>
1.7	Presentation of SAFEMED at the 26 th Regular Session of the IMO Assembly in co-operation with EC	<p>Completed: A presentation on the SAFEMED Project was delivered on Wednesday 2 December during the 26th Regular Session of the IMO Assembly followed by a small reception. More than seventy delegates from all over the world attended the presentation. A press release was also issued.</p>

Activity 2 Towards an effective flag State implementation and fulfillment of international obligations		
Task N°	Title	Status
2.1	Identification of impediments and shortcomings for fulfillment of flag State related obligations	Completed: One S/T expert was recruited to implement this task. The report had been completed and disseminated.
2.2	Monitoring of flag performance and improved monitoring of Classification societies	Completed: Seminar held in Barcelona, Spain on the 14 & 15 December 2010. 15 participants from 9 beneficiaries attended the Seminar.
2.3	Assistance for the preparation of VIMSAS	Ongoing: National VIMSAS workshops have been held in Jordan in February, in Israel and Turkey in June, in Syria in September and in Morocco in November 2010. In 2011, national Workshops are planned in Lebanon (March) and Tunisia (April) while the Workshop that was planned in Egypt (February) had to be postponed due to the present situation in this country.
2.4	Participation to the IMO Flag State Implementation Sub-Committee (FSI)	Ongoing: Egypt, Jordan, Tunisia and the Secretariat of the MED MoU on PSC attended the 18 th Session of IMO's FSI Sub-Committee and presented their papers. The printing of the 2008 Annual Report of the MED MoU on PSC and the delivery to IMO for distribution during the 18 th FSI Sub-Committee Meeting was sponsored by the SAFEMED II Project. With the approval of the EC this task was also extended to the 19 th FSI Sub-Committee which was held in February 2011. Egypt, Israel, Syria, Tunisia and the Med MoU on PSC participated in FSI 19.
2.5	Short SAFEMED flag State course	Tentatively planned for the 10-14 October 2011.

Activity 2 Towards an effective flag State implementation and fulfillment of international obligations		
Task N°	Title	Status
2.6	Participation to the Master of Sciences courses at the World Maritime University (WMU) for duly qualified candidates from the Mediterranean partners	<p>Ongoing: Three fellowships (two financed from SAFEMED I and one financed from SAFEMED II) were granted and the three students from Egypt, Syria and Turkey graduated in October 2010.</p> <p>Three SAFEMED II sponsored students, from Jordan, Tunisia and Turkey, are now attending the 2010/2011 WMU courses.</p> <p>NB: Following consultation with the EC, this task has been extended to the four Western Balkan States.</p>
2.7	Participation to the Master of Laws (LL.M) course at the International Maritime Law Institute (IMLI) for duly qualified candidates from the Mediterranean partners	<p>Ongoing: One student, from Turkey, has been granted a scholarship for academic year 2009-2010 and she graduated on 1 May 2010.</p> <p>One student from Egypt has been granted a scholarship for academic year 2010-2011 and is now attending IMLI.</p> <p>NB: Following consultation with the EC, this task has been extended to the four Western Balkan States.</p>
2.8	Promotion of the ratification of the ILO Maritime Labour Convention (MLC)	Completed: Seminar was held between the 6 and 8 April 2010 at the EMSA premises.
2.9	Recommendations for accident investigations	<p>Tentatively planned for November 2011.</p> <p>NB: Following consultation with the EC, this task has been extended to the four Western Balkan States.</p>

Activity 3 Strengthening of the Port State Control (PSC) regime in the Mediterranean		
Task N°	Title	Status
3.1	Presentation of the SAFEMED II activities to the MED MoU in co-operation with EC/EMSA	<p>Completed: Meeting held in Brussels on the 24 June 2009 between the EC/REMPEC and the Secretariat of the Med MoU on PSC.</p> <p>A presentation was delivered during the Med MoU 11th Committee Meeting which was held in Malta between the 9 and 11 November 2009.</p> <p>Ongoing: The Project also participated in the 12th Committee Meeting (7-9 Dec., 2010 in Malta) and will also participate in the 13th Meeting in Cyprus (26-28 September 2011).</p>
3.2	Updating available information and additional fact-finding on PSC activities	Merged with Task 3.3
3.3	Establishment of required profile of MED PSC inspectors (basic and expected qualification)	<p>Ongoing: One S/T expert has been recruited to carry out these two tasks.</p> <p>Due to initially weak level of reply by beneficiaries to the preparatory questionnaire, deadline has been extended to end January 2011 and, so far, four beneficiaries have submitted data.</p>
3.4	Update of the MED manual on PSC procedures	Planned for the last quarter of 2011.-
3.5	Improvement of data exchange between the beneficiaries and the MED MoU Info Centre	Ongoing: Merged with Task 3.7

Activity 3 Strengthening of the Port State Control (PSC) regime in the Mediterranean		
Task N°	Title	Status
3.6	Development of a training programme on PSC procedures for MED PSC inspectors and training of PSC inspectors	<p>Completed: National Tutoring Courses: Three tutoring courses were organized by EMSA in 2010 in Morocco (20-23 Sept), in Turkey (18-22 Oct) and in Egypt (21-25 Nov).</p> <p>Ongoing: Regional Training for PSCOs: This is scheduled for 19-21 September 2011.</p>
3.7	Upgrading of the MED MoU PSC info Centre and possible connection with EU PSC database	<p>Ongoing: A meeting was held in Casablanca Morocco in conjunction with an IMO expertise mission to assess needs and determine conditions for an upgrade of the Med MoU Info Centre capacities. Conclusions of the Meeting will lead to further actions.</p>
Unplanned task (new)	Supply of the Rule-Check system	<p>Ongoing: Development of the Rule Check for the MED MoU PSCOs: With the approval of the EC this task will now be funded from the unused funds under Activity 4 (Equipment).</p>

Activity 4 VTMIS equipment and related services		
Task N°	Title	Status
4.1	Assessment of the feasibility of further developing GMDSS coastal stations, AIS base stations or national networks and new VTS installations and/or maritime reporting systems and preparation of the relevant terms of reference for potential calls for tenders.	<p>Completed: On the 18 March 2009 a meeting was held in Brussels with the EC and EMSA in order to agree on the best way forward to implement effectively Activity 4. A road map was agreed upon and was communicated to the beneficiaries during the SAFEMED Project Progress Meeting held in Brussels on 23 June 2009 and during the Awareness Seminars.</p> <p>One S/T expert was recruited to implement Tasks 4.1 & 4.2. Field assessment missions were carried out by the S/T expert to a number of beneficiaries. The S/T expert also visited EMSA and the Italian Coast Guard in Rome which hosts the AIS server. Egypt has formally informed REMPEC that it does not want to participate in Activity 4.</p> <p>The Report, which had to be finalised by REMPEC, was delivered to the EC in August 2010. See also Task 4.4</p>
4.2	Assessment of the feasibility and preparedness of SAFEMED beneficiaries to potentially link with SafeSeaNet and/or AIS Regional Network and preparation of the relevant terms of reference for potential calls for tenders.	Completed: Merged with Task 4.1
4.3	Reviewing of existing or reporting of newly established traffic measures to IMO	<p>Completed: Circular Letter was issued in October 2009 requesting interested project beneficiaries to express their interest for assistance by 31 March 2010. A reminder was sent beginning of March.</p> <p>Only three beneficiaries replied and all three declined the Project's offer for assistance in this regard. The EC was informed.</p>

Activity 4 VTMS equipment and related services		
Task N°	Title	Status
4.4	Equipment procurement for traffic monitoring/ port control stations, alerting posts and AIS base stations	<p>Ongoing: A teleconference between EC, EMSA and REMPEC took place on 24 February 2010 and a 'way forward' was agreed. In April the EC issued letters to individual beneficiaries explaining the assistance that is being offered and requesting the Governments to agree to the sharing of AIS data amongst the beneficiaries. The deadline was set for 1 June 2010.</p> <p>On the 9 June 2010, during the 2nd Advisory Committee Meeting, Activity 4, in particular, the sharing of AIS data amongst the SAFEMED II beneficiaries was discussed in great detail. As it stands now Egypt and Turkey have answered negatively while Israel and Jordan have answered positively to the EC's offer. The rest of the beneficiaries are still formulating their official position and have still to reply to the EC's letter.</p> <p>As a way forward, during the 2nd Advisory Committee Meeting it was agreed that the requested clarifications and assurances will be communicated to the beneficiaries together with a draft Agreement that will be used to regulate the sharing of AIS data.</p> <p>This draft Agreement together with the Technical FactSheet was sent to all the beneficiaries in August 2010.</p> <p>After extending the deadline and after a number of individual reminders, only Jordan and Israel have responded positively while Egypt, Morocco and Turkey have replied in the negative. Algeria, Lebanon, Syria and Tunisia have not officially replied.</p> <p>In November 2010, after consultation with EC/EMSA, it was decided that Israel and Jordan are offered assistance. The EC is to send official letters to Israel and Jordan.</p>

Activity 4 VTMS equipment and related services		
Task N°	Title	Status
4.5	Training programme for VTS operators, VTS supervisors and VTS on-job training instructors	<p>Ongoing: A Circular Letter, outlining the VTS training programme, was issued in February 2011 and the beneficiaries had until the 15 March to indicate if they are interested in this training.</p> <p>As on the 14 March only Jordan and Montenegro have confirmed their interest.</p> <p>An IALA certified VTS Training provider located in Malta has been identified as a possible provider for this task.</p> <p>NB: Following consultation with the EC, this task has been extended to the four Western Balkan States.</p>

Activity 5 Protection of the marine environment		
Task N°	Title	Status
5.1	Coherent and effective implementation of the MARPOL Annexes, in particular I,II and III	<p>Ongoing: 5.1.1 Single Hull Tankers Circular Letter, together with the Questionnaire, was issued in Sept with a deadline of 1 Dec. Reminders were issued in Dec to those countries which have not yet replied. On the 14 March 2011 only Egypt had not replied.</p> <p>Ongoing: 5.1.2 MARPOL Annex I A Circular Letter was issued in June 2010 to inform the original ten SAFEMED II Project beneficiaries about the assistance the Project can provide to beneficiaries to fulfill their obligations under MARPOL Annex I. Beneficiaries were requested to respond to this Circular Letter by the end of September 2010. Egypt, Lebanon, Syria and Tunisia have replied and requested assistance. This activity will take place during the year 2011.</p> <p>Completed: 5.1.3 Workshop on Annexes II & III A Regional (REMPEC/SAFEMED) Workshop was held in Malta between the 26 and 29 April 2010. The 38 participants, from 19 countries, who attended the Workshop received first-hand information on the revised MARPOL Annexes II & III from the IMO representative and other experts in the field.</p> <p>NB: Following consultation with the EC, this sub-task (5.1.3) has been extended to the four Western Balkan States.</p>
5.2	Assistance in the ratification and implementation of MARPOL Annex VI	<p>Completed: A Regional (REMPEC/SAFEMED) Workshop was held on the 26 and 27 October 2010 in Athens, Greece. The 41 participants (38 participants from 16 countries, 2 from the industry and the EC) who attended this Workshop familiarized themselves with the contents of the revised Annex VI.</p> <p>NB: Following consultation with the EC, this task has been extended to the four Western Balkan States.</p>

Activity 5 Protection of the marine environment		
Task N°	Title	Status
5.3	Promotion of an adequate network of places of refuge in the Mediterranean	<p>Ongoing: A country-specific Circular Letter was issued in Sept 2010 to all the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention, including all the SAFEMED beneficiaries. Through this Circular Letter each country was requested to review, and update as necessary, their previously submitted Questionnaire or to complete and submit a new Questionnaire if not already done so. A deadline for replies was set for the 31 December. Individual reminders sent on the 8 March 2011.</p> <p>As of the 14 March 2011 Albania, B&H, Greece, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Malta, Montenegro, the Palestinian Authority, Slovenia, Spain, Syria and Tunisia have replied.</p>
5.4	Implementation of the AFS Convention	<p>Ongoing: This Regional Workshop will be held between the 7 & 8 June 2011 in Cyprus. This task is also being organized within the framework of the REMPEC's programme of activities.</p> <p>NB: Following consultation with the EC, this task has been extended to the four Western Balkan States.</p>

Activity 6 Security of ships and port facilities in the Mediterranean area.		
Task N°	Title	Status
6.1	Workshops to promote regulatory and technical reforms	<p>Completed: 1st Annual Workshop on Maritime Security was held in Brussels from the 19 to 21 January 2010 in full cooperation with the EC's DG MOVE Unit G-2. A number of EU MARSEC members also attended the workshop. One STE was recruited to coordinate these Annual Workshops. The 1st Annual Workshop report was disseminated.</p> <p>Completed: 2nd Annual Workshop on Maritime Security was held in Genoa at the offices of the Italian Coast Guard from the 1-2 February 2011 in full cooperation with the Italian Coast Guard and EC's DG MOVE Unit G-2. Three EU MARSEC members also participated as 'Observer' at this Workshop</p> <p>Ongoing: 3rd Annual Workshop on Maritime Security: This Workshop is tentatively to be held in France at the end of 2011.</p> <p>NB: Following consultation with the EC, this task has been extended to the four Western Balkan States.</p>
6.2	Assessment of the training capacity	<p>Completed: One S/T expert was recruited for this task. Field assessment missions were carried out (Egypt refused to participate). Country reports were disseminated.</p>
6.3	Training programme for maritime security personnel	<p>Ongoing: On the 15 Dec 2010 a Circular Letter was issued to the original 10 SAFEMED II beneficiaries informing them of the type of training that is being offered within the framework of the Project in the form of National Training courses aimed at Maritime Security Personnel. The Project invited those beneficiaries interested in this type of training to confirm their interest by the 31 Jan 2011. Due to the poor response this deadline was extended until 11 March by means of another reminder.</p> <p>By the 14 March 2011 Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Syria and Tunisia have confirmed their interest.</p> <p>The process to identify the right Maritime Security training provider for this task is now underway.</p>

Activity 6 Security of ships and port facilities in the Mediterranean area.		
Task N°	Title	Status
6.4	Monitoring of the Recognized Security Organizations (RSOs)	<p>Completed: The Questionnaire on RSOs was sent out to all the beneficiaries at the end of June, together with other Questionnaires (see Task 6.1- 2nd Annual Workshop). The information gathered from these questionnaires was analysed by the STE and the information gathered presented during the 2nd Annual Workshop which was held on the 1&2 February in Genoa.</p> <p>Country reports were prepared by the STE and disseminated.</p> <p>Merged with Task 6.1</p>
6.5	Establishing/ strengthening maritime security in port area and for Non- SOLAS ships.	Ongoing: Merged with both Task 6.1 & Task 6.2

Activity 7 Supporting Activities		
Task N°	Title	Status
7.1 O	Coordination with on going and future projects	Ongoing: Co-ordination is carried out internally through the various projects and activities carried out by REMPEC in the implementation of its programme of activities and Regional Strategy, and externally by maintaining contact with the Euromed Transport Project and other Euromed maritime transport related projects, such as MEDA MoS and METIS. As much as possible, the Euromed Transport Project National Coordinators are kept informed of SAFEMED II Project activities. Moreover, the SAFEMED Project assists in the monitoring of the implementation of some actions of the Regional Transport Action Plan (RTAP), approved during the 8 th Euromed Transport Forum. Regular contact with EC DG MOVE and DG AidCo officials also facilitates coordination with ongoing and future EU-funded maritime transport related projects.
7.2	Input to the SAFEMED project follow-up	Ongoing: Input regarding the follow-up of the SAFEMED Project is provided during the Euromed Transport Forum meetings and during the Forum's Maritime Safety Sub-Group meetings.

Activity 7 Supporting Activities		
Task N°	Title	Status
7.3	Advisory Committee	<p>SAFEMED Project Progress Meeting: Due to restrictions at the time in the organization of technical meetings for projects within the framework of the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM), a SAFEMED Project Progress Meeting was held on the 23 June 2009 in Brussels. The main purpose of the meeting was to discuss the outcome of the SAFEMED I Project and the contents of the follow-up Project, the SAFEMED II Project. REMPEC, as the implementation body, issued the invitations to all the beneficiaries and chaired this meeting. The meeting was well attended and all the beneficiaries present delivered presentations on the SAFEMED project and how they benefitted from this project. The European Commission (EC) updated the meeting with the recent developments related to EuroMed co-operation in the maritime transport sector with particular reference to the field of maritime safety. The most recent developments in relation to the implementation of the actions related to maritime safety of the 2007 adopted Regional Transport Action Plan (RTAP) were also highlighted by the EC.</p> <p>2nd Advisory Committee Meeting: Held in Lisbon, at the EMSA premises, on the 9 June 2010. The meeting was well attended, including the four Western Balkan States, namely, Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Croatia and Montenegro, who were invited for the first time. Besides the updates given by the EC, EMSA, IMO and REMPEC, the meeting focussed on Activity 4 (VTMIS), and in particular, the issue of the sharing of AIS data amongst the SAFEMED II beneficiaries using the EC/EMSA MED AIS Regional server, located in Rome. The participants also had a chance to visit the EMSA Maritime Support Services (MSS) Operator's Room located within the EMSA premises.</p> <p>NB: Following consultations with the EC, this task has been extended to the four Western Balkan States.</p>