



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

3rd Offshore Protocol Working Group Meeting,
Attard, Malta 17-18 June 2014

REMPEC/WG.35/3/2
Date: 20 May 2014

Agenda Item 3

Original: English

PROVISIONAL ANNOTATED AGENDA

Note by the Secretariat

SUMMARY

Executive Summary: This document provides brief information on the action to be taken by the Meeting.

Action to be taken: As indicated under each agenda item.

Related documents: REMPEC/WG.35/3/1 - REMPEC/WG.35/3/3

Introduction

1. The 3rd Offshore Protocol Working Group Meeting is being convened pursuant to the Decision IG.20/12 of the 17th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention (Paris, France, 8-10 February 2012).

2. The principal objectives of the Meeting will be:

- To review the Draft Action Plan for the implementation of the Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution Resulting from Exploration and Exploitation of the Continental Shelf and the Seabed and its Subsoil (Offshore Protocol);
- To discuss the working arrangements of the Barcelona Convention Offshore Oil and Gas Group (BARCO –OFOG Group) as requested in the Decision IG.21/8 of the 18th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention (Istanbul, Turkey, 3-6 December 2013); and
- To address necessary partnerships with other organizations, industry and other actors to be established including the MAP Partners to support in the framework of the BARCO –OFOG Group the successful implementation of the Offshore Protocol.

3. Offshore Focal Points and Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) Focal Points have been 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 offshore exploration and production 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 and their members whose activities are relevant for the work of the Offshore Protocol Working Group.

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

Day I: 17th June 2014

Agenda Item 1 **Opening of the Meeting**

5. The 3rd Offshore Protocol Working Group Meeting will be opened on Tuesday, 17th June 2014 at 09.00 hours and is expected to close on Wednesday, 18th June 2014 at 17.30hrs.

6. Mr. Frederic Hebert, Director of the Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC) will open the Meeting.

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 Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean (Barcelona Convention) 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**

The Meeting will be invited to elect a Chairperson, a vice-Chairperson and a Rapporteur.

2.3 **Working Languages**

8. The working languages of the Meeting will be English and French. Simultaneous English/French/English interpretation will be provided during the Meeting. All working documents will be available in both official languages of the Centre, i.e. in English and in French. Unless available in both languages, Information documents will however be available in their original language.

Agenda Item 3 **Adoption of the Agenda**

9. The Agenda, as proposed in document REMPEC/WG.35/3/1 and annotated in the present document, will be proposed for adoption by the Meeting. The Meeting will also be invited to agree on a timetable to carry out its work. A draft timetable is proposed in document REMPEC/WG.30/3/3.

Agenda Item 4 **Introduction and background**

10. The Director of REMPEC will recall the measures undertaken by the Secretariat since the adoption of the Decision IG.20/12 on the "Action Plan to implement the Protocol of the Barcelona Convention concerning the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution Resulting from Exploration and Exploitation of the Continental Shelf and the Seabed and its Subsoil".

The Meeting will be invited to comment and take note of the information provided.

Agenda Item 5 **Preliminary discussions**

11. Under this agenda item, the Secretariat of the Meeting will introduce document REMPEC/WG.35/4 and will highlight several issues which require guidance for the completion and implementation of the draft Action Plan.

The Meeting will be invited to provide recommendations on these issues.

Agenda Item 6 **Governance Framework**

12. The Secretariat of the Meeting will present the Specific Objectives 1 to 6 related to the Offshore Protocol Action Plan Governance Framework proposed in Annex to the document REMPEC/WG.35/4 and its related Appendixes.

The Meeting will be invited to comment on and provide their recommendations on the Specific Objectives 1 to 6.

Agenda Item 7 **Regional Offshore Standards and Guidelines**

13. The Secretariat of the Meeting will present the Specific Objectives 7 and 8 related to the Regional Offshore Standards and Guidelines proposed in Annex to the document REMPEC/WG.35/4 and its related Appendixes.

The Meeting will be invited to comment on and provide their recommendations on the Specific Objectives 7 and 8.

Agenda Item 8 **Regional Offshore Monitoring Programmes**

14. The representative of the Secretariat of the Barcelona Convention will introduce documents REMPEC/WG.35/INF.4 and REMPEC/WG.35/INF.5 on the Ecosystem Approach.

15. The Secretariat of the Meeting will then present the Specific Objectives 9 related to the Regional Offshore Monitoring Programme proposed in Annex to the document REMPEC/WG.35/4 and its related Appendixes.

The Meeting will be invited to comment on and provide their recommendations on the Specific Objective 9.

Agenda Item 9 **Reporting**

16. The Secretariat of the Meeting will present the Specific Objectives 10 related to the Reporting of the implementation of the Action Plan as proposed in Annex to the document REMPEC/WG.35/4 and its related Appendixes.

The Meeting will be invited to comment on and provide their recommendations on the Specific Objective 10.

Agenda Item 10 **Other business**

17. The Meeting will be invited to consider any other matters that may be raised under this agenda item.

Agenda Item 11 **Adoption of the Draft Action Plan**

18. The amended Draft Action Plan prepared by the Secretariat including the comments made by the Meeting will be presented for review.

19. The representative of the Secretariat of the Barcelona Convention will present the following steps in view of the adoption of the Action Plan by the 19th Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention at the end of 2015.

Agenda Item 12 **Closure of the Meeting**

20. The Meeting is expected to be closed by the Chairperson at 17.30 hours on Thursday, 18 June 2014.