



UNEP-PNUE

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



**EURO-MEDITERRANEAN PARTNERSHIP**

**EUROMED COOPERATION ON MARITIME SAFETY AND PREVENTION OF POLLUTION FROM SHIPS  
(SAFEMED II)**

*EU-Funded MEDA Regional Project MED 2007/147-568*

# **CONSOLIDATION AND IMPLEMENTATION TRAINING COURSE ON THE BALLAST WATER MANAGEMENT (BWM) CONVENTION, 2004**

**Malta**

**8 - 9 May 2012**



## **REPORT**

### **SAFEMED II Project Task 5.7**



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**Subject: Final report**

**Date: 23 May 2012**

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

**From: Dr. Baumler Raphaël - WMU**

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**REPORT ON TRAINING COURSE HELD IN MALTA, 08-09 MAY 2012**

Title of Training: **Consolidation and Implementation Training Course on the Ballast  
Water Management (BWM) Convention, 2004**

Host: **Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the  
Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC)**

Venue and date: **Palace Hotel, Sliema, Malta, 08-09 May, 2012**

Type: **Regional**

Organized by: **REMPEC**

Supported by: **SAFEMED II**

No. of participants and no. of countries: 27 participants from 13 countries

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The present report was prepared within the framework of the SAFEMED II project under the responsibility of the Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea (REMPEC). The views expressed in this report are those of the Consultant and cannot be attributed in any way to the EU, IMO, REMPEC, or WMU.

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## **SUMMARY**

The International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments, 2004 (BWMC) which aims at preventing the risks arising from the transfer of Harmful Aquatic Organisms and Pathogens (HAOP) through the control and management of ships' Ballast water and sediments, is expected to enter into force soon. Therefore, State Parties and their Administrations have to be prepared to meet the requirements and obligations of the Convention.

This training session aimed to promote awareness in the Region and to support preparatory steps of implementation. It was supported both by the EU, through the SAFEMED II Project, and the International Maritime Organization (IMO), through REMPEC and GloBallast Partnerships Project.

The Regional Training Course discussed the issues associated with the implementation of the Convention and the respective roles of the Flag, Coastal and Port State. The question of Port State Control and sampling was developed to highlight its complexity. The interventions of the two Lead Partner Countries (LPCs) of the GloBallast Partnerships' Project in the Mediterranean, namely Croatia and Turkey, gave a practical approach to the topic.

The two-day Training Course provided an effective platform for participants to exchange views and information on the various requirements of the implementation process of the Convention. The participants were satisfied with the course programme and expressed a positive opinion about the Training course.

## **1. BASICS**

### **Venue**

The Training Course took place at the Palace Hotel in Sliema, Malta. Except for REMPEC personnel, the participants and lecturers were hosted in this single location. Accommodation, breakfast and lunch were provided on-site whilst the training facility was located in the basement of the Hotel. Simultaneous translation English/French/English was available in the training room which was equipped with adequate video and audio systems.

### **Training material and documentation**

REMPEC provided the text of the Convention and Guidelines as well as several GloBallast monographs to the participants. No printed manual was provided to the participants. However, a complete set of documents, including the presentations, was provided on a CD handed out to each participant at the end of the session.

### **Participants**

Representatives from various SafeMed II Project beneficiaries in the Mediterranean region attended the training together with a number of participants from Malta. It is noticeable that Libya was represented in a SafeMed II Project event for the first time. REMPEC fulfilled its objectives to attract participants which, for their large majority, had never been trained on the topic.

### **Lecturers and experts**

An expert lecturer from the World Maritime University (WMU), officials from IMO, REMPEC and the European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA) and delegates from the two Mediterranean GloBallast Partnerships' Project LPCs – Croatia and Turkey – delivered presentations.

A list containing details about the participants and lecturers is available in Annex 1.

## **2. INTRODUCTION TO THE TOPIC**

### **Background**

In 1988, the issue of the transfer of Harmful Aquatic Organism and Pathogens (HAOP) through Ballast Water was presented to the IMO. After a long process of discussions and negotiations, the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments (BWMC) was adopted in 2004. The primary aim of this Convention is to avoid the transfer of HAOP through adequate management of the Ballast Water contained on board ships.

As for any international treaty, a certain number of conditions have to be met before it enters into force. Whereas the requirement regarding the number of ratifications is presently achieved, the condition relating to the percentage of the world fleet is not reached yet. However, the upcoming possible ratification by additional States within the next few months suggests an entry into force of the Convention by 2013/2014. As the entry into force gets closer, the promotion of the Convention is necessary to assist States in taking preparatory steps.

To support the ratification and implementation of the Convention in the Mediterranean region, REMPEC organised a two-day training course in Malta, with representatives from various Mediterranean countries, within the framework of the EU-funded MEDA regional SafeMed II Project which the Centre is implementing in the Mediterranean region. This course took place on May 08-09, 2012 and was conducted as an element of the Task 5.7 of Activity 5 of the Project.

In addition, members of regional and international bodies – namely EMSA, REMPEC, IMO and WMU, as well as representatives from the two GloBallast Partnerships' Project Mediterranean LPCs - Croatia and Turkey - participated in the delivery of the training. The panel of experts shared their knowledge and experience with the participants.

### **Aim of the Training Course**

The main objective of the Training Course was to develop awareness on the BWMC amongst the national competent authorities of the Mediterranean region by familiarizing the course participants with the provisions of the BWMC.

Other objectives were to highlight the importance of a consistent implementation encompassing Flag, Coastal and Port State issues and to demonstrate the necessity of a trans-administration approach to the issue – i.e. transport, environment, health, communication, etc.

The expected diversity of the audience orientated the training towards a large variety of topics related to the implementation of the BWMC.

Although the course's content was not pre-formatted, existing training modules were used to promote a common set of knowledge and skills.

To support these broad presentations, the LPCs representatives were expected to provide practical information about the implementation of the BWMC in Croatia and Turkey.

Finally, the course aimed at creating interactions to share knowledge and allow participants to benefit from each other's expertise and experience.

### **3. THE COURSE**

#### **Opening Remarks**

Mr. Frédéric Hébert, Director of REMPEC delivered the opening remarks. He welcomed the participants and the lecturers to the Course and recalled the importance of regional cooperation to address the issue of species introduction through shipping. He also acknowledged the support of the SafeMed II Project.

Thereafter, Mr. Jonathan Pace, Senior Programme Officer at REMPEC and Fredrik Haag, Chief Technical Adviser of the IMO-Globallast Partnerships Project, introduced the topic, the lecturers, and the content of the session.

#### **Day 1 – May 08<sup>th</sup>**

- The Course commenced by the screening of the 30-minute movie “Invaders of the sea”. Then, Mr. Haag defined some important principles and vocabulary associated with invasive species and ballast water management. He also presented the international response to the issue of invasive species in the marine environment. He furthermore highlighted the position of the BWMC among other IMO instruments and explained the importance of the GloBallast Project. This presentation was an adjusted version of module 1 of the Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement (CME) training package developed under the responsibility of the GloBallast Partnerships Project.
- The second presentation of Mr. Fredrik Haag focused on the BWMC itself. He described the structure and main features of the Convention and pointed out the various Ballast Water Management requirements set in the Convention. He completed his presentation by a short reminder on the duties of State Parties. This presentation was an adjusted version of module 3 of the GloBallast Project CME training package.
- The next presentation was delivered by Dr. Raphaël Baumler from WMU. His presentation dealt with the set of international instruments relating to the Ballast Water Management Convention. He particularly described the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) requirements. This presentation was an adjusted version of module 2 of the abovementioned CME training package.
- The last presentation of the day related to the “Implementation of the Ballast Water Management Convention” and was delivered by Dr. Baumler. After an overview of the risks associated with Ballast Waters and their management, he introduced the concept of barrier – i.e. risk mitigation measures intended to control risks. The purpose of this presentation was to stress the importance of implementing a consistent strategy encompassing Flag, Coastal and Port State jurisdiction. In addition, some basic principles regarding the implementation of the Convention were discussed. This presentation was an adjusted version of module 4 of the legal training package developed under the responsibility of the Globallast Partnerships Project.
- The day was completed by a short wrap-up exercise.

## Day 2 – May 09<sup>th</sup>

- Mr. Brian Elliott, Senior Project Officer Environmental Protection at EMSA presented the “Flag, Port and Coastal aspects of Ballast Water Management”. In other words, he introduced in detail the role and responsibilities of States when dealing with this issue. In particular, he presented several important aspects related to the implementation of additional measures by coastal States. He mentioned the International Ballast Water Management Certificate, related documents and required surveys. This presentation was an adjusted version of module 4 of the aforementioned CME training package. In addition to the presentation, an exercise was presented by Dr. Baumler on the topic.
- The following presentation, delivered by Mr. Brian Elliott, presented the concept of Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement and, focused on Port State Control (PSC). Mr. Elliott emphasised the complexity of PSC under the BWMC – by means of a draft diagram – with particular attention to sampling and sampling analysis. To this end, he set up a microscope in the training room for participants to analyse a sample of sea water. Moreover, he recalled the importance of domestic law enactment in terms of sanctions and penalties for violation.
- Following Mr. Elliott’s presentation, Dr. Baumler delivered a “last minute” presentation on the principle and practice of the Ballast Water Management Reporting Form. The purpose of this short presentation was to demonstrate the advantages brought by the implementation of this simple and costless document.
- Afterwards, Mr. Haag delivered a presentation on the “development of a national strategic framework for BWM”. The purpose was to give an overview of the step-by-step BWMC implementation process in the national context, taking into account the various players concerned. The importance of establishing a national task force, a national strategy, and adequate operational arrangements was demonstrated.
- After these broad presentations, the delegate of Croatia, Mrs. Maja Markovic-Kostelac, Head of Legal and International Department of the Directorate of Maritime Traffic, Maritime Domain and Ports at the Ministry of Maritime Affairs, Transport and Infrastructure, presented the process of implementation of the requirements of the BWM Convention in her country.
- Mr. Murat Korcak, Project Coordinator, Ministry of Transport, Maritime Affairs and Communications of Turkey, then presented the implementation of the Convention in his country and focused on the development of a risk assessment software, which should be available soon in English for all countries.
- Mr. Jonathan Pace, Senior Programme Officer, REMPEC, delivered the final presentation and concluded the meeting. His presentation dealt with the implementation strategy in the Mediterranean region. After a short reminder on the region’s coordination process, he focused on the “Mediterranean Strategy on Ships’ Ballast Water Management” adopted by the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention. He briefly described the Strategic Priorities included in the document UNEP(DEPI)/MED IG 20/8 related to the decision IG.20/11.

#### **4. ASSESSMENT AND COURSE CONCLUSION**

At the end of the Training Course, all participants completed an evaluation questionnaire. The participants expressed a high degree of interest in the subject and the content and the organisation of the training course seemed to satisfy the majority of the participants. This input is summarized in Annex 3 of the present report.

After the last presentation, Mr. Pace and Mr. Haag concluded the Training Course and thanked all participants and lecturers for their contribution to the success of the course. A certificate of attendance and a CD containing all the course material (including presentations) and background documents was distributed to all participants.

As an overall conclusion, the representatives expressed strong interest in the topic, appreciated the presentations, the involvement of the SafeMed II Project, REMPEC and IMO, and the organisation of the event.

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## ANNEX 2 - PROGRAMME AND TIME TABLE

<b>Day 1 – Tuesday 8 May</b>	
08.30 – 09.00	Registration
09.00 – 09.30	Opening and Introduction to the course - Fredrik Haag / Jonathan Pace
09.30 – 10.00	Video “Invaders of the sea”
10.00 – 10.30	Introduction to Ballast Water Management - Fredrik Haag
10.30 – 11.00	<i>Coffee Break</i>
11.00 – 12.00	Ballast Water Management Convention and Guidelines - Fredrik Haag
12.00 – 12.30	<i>Questions and Discussion</i>
12.30 – 14.00	<i>Lunch</i>
14.00 – 15.00	Other International Instruments and Principles relevant to Ballast Water Management - Raphael Baumler
15.00 – 15.30	<i>Coffee Break</i>
15.30 – 16.30	Implementing the Ballast Water Management Convention - Raphael Baumler
16.30 – 17.00	<i>Exercise / Questions and Discussion</i>
17.00	Closure of Day 1

**Day 2 – Wednesday 9 May**

09.00 – 10.30	Flag, Port and Coastal State Aspects of Ballast Water Management (including Exercise) – Brian Elliott & Raphael Baumler
10.30 – 11.00	<i>Coffee Break</i>
11.00 – 12.15	Compliance, Monitoring and Enforcement (including Sampling Exercise) - Brian Elliott
12.15 – 12.45	BWRF & targeting as a mitigating principle – Raphael Baumler
12.45 – 14.00	<i>Lunch</i>
14.00 – 15.00	Development of a National Strategic Framework for Ballast Water Management – Fredrik Haag
15.00 – 15.30	<i>Coffee Break</i>
15.30 – 16.30	National Examples: Implementing the Ballast Water Management Convention - Croatia Mrs. Maja Markovic-Kostelac and Turkey Mr. Murat Korçak
16.30 – 17.00	Implementing the Ballast Water Management Convention in the Mediterranean – Recent Developments - Jonathan Pace
17.00 – 17.30	Presentation of Certificates & Closing remarks

### ANNEX 3 - RESULTS OF THE PARTICIPANTS' EVALUATION FORM

**1. Did the Course meet your expectations?**

Beyond your expectations

13

More or less on par with your expectations

15

Below your expectations

**2. Generally speaking, how do you judge the content and quality of the lectures/presentations?**

Very good

23

Quite good

3

Good

3

Not good enough

**3. Did you acquire new knowledge during this Workshop?**

Very much

26

Some

3

Not enough

**4. Will the knowledge acquired during this Workshop help you in your current work?**

Very much

23

Enough

6

No

**Other comments?**

- *Useful info to enhance Inspections and to protect local resources*
- *Support PSCO work and environmental compliance*
- *Expect that course should be supported by drills*
- *Linkage with other conventions like CBD*
- *Material supplied is good*

**5. Do you think that the duration of the lectures/presentations was adequate?**

About right

Too long

Not long enough

**6. Did you have enough time for questions?**

Yes

No

**7. In your opinion, are there any other issues or topics which the Course should have covered?**

*(Synthesis of all the comments)*

- *Additional info on the implementation (1 comment)*
- *Additional info on BWM systems (6 comments)*
- *Additional info on crew and companies (1 comment)*
- *Conflicts with present laws (1 comment)*
- *Practical approach of BWM (1 comment)*

**8. Do you think that it was useful to meet other officials from the Mediterranean region?**

Yes

No

**9. Which lectures/presentations did you find most interesting?**

*(Synthesis of all the comments)*

*All lectures were interesting. In addition, it seems the practical examples of Croatia and Turkey were highly appreciated.*

**10. Which lectures/presentations did you find least interesting?**  
(Synthesis of all the comments)

*Murat Korçak (1 comment)*

*Brian Elliott (1 comment)*

*The first day (1 comment)*

*All (1 comment)* } 

<i>Probably misunderstanding of the question</i>
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**11. Generally speaking, are you satisfied with the Course?**

Very satisfied 

22
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Satisfied 

7
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Unsatisfied 

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**12. Other comments**

(Some of the comments)

- *Additional training is expected (3 comments) and longer training including incorporation of technical issues (1 comment)*
- *A dedicated presentation on BWM treatment systems on board is expected (1 comment)*
- *Very useful to focus on implementation aspects (1 comment)*
- *Warm thanks to REMPEC and its organization*

**Main points of the feedback:**

- **The course was very successful and deeply appreciated**
- **The introduction of Croatian and Turkish examples were appreciated**
- **Additional info on BWM system should be considered**
- **Additional courses should be proposed**